

THE TIMES GREAT SUMMER OF SPORT

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Appeal Court rejects 15-year term Howard was 'unfair' to Bulger killers

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL HOWARD suffered his twelfth defeat at the hands of the judiciary yesterday when the Court of Appeal ruled that he had acted unfairly in setting a minimum 15-year sentence on the two boys who murdered James Bulger.



Howard: "We will now appeal to Lords"

The Home Secretary was criticised for taking a "perfunctory" approach to the case and told that he should not have heeded public petitions demanding that the two boys never be freed.

The procedures followed by Mr Howard in reaching his decision "were so seriously flawed and lacking in fairness and so open to criticism" that the tariff should be quashed, the judges said.

But they upheld the Home Secretary's right to treat young people convicted of murder in the same way as adults — although Lord Woolf disagreed with his fellow judges. He argued that detention at Her Majesty's pleasure was "different, separate and more merciful" than a life sentence, and called for a review of the administration of cases which would result in children being locked up for long periods.

Lawyers for the killers, Robert Thompson and Jon Venables, said that they would pursue that point to the House of Lords.

Mr Howard also said that he intended to take the case to the highest court. "We won on the substantial question on which we lost in the court below. We have lost on one other point, and we will appeal that to the House of Lords," he said.

Thompson and Venables were aged ten when they abducted two-year-old James Bulger from a Liverpool shopping centre and murdered him on a railway line in February 1993.

They were convicted at Preston Crown Court and Mr Justice Morland, the trial judge, ordered them to be detained at Her Majesty's pleasure.

pleasure. He recommended a minimum eight-year tariff for punishment and deterrence, which was increased to ten by the then Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor of Gosforth.

Mr Howard then increased it again to 15 years after receiving a petition signed by 250,000 people, 4,400 individual letters and 21,000 coupons from readers of *The Sun* backing the Bulger family's demand that the boys should never be released. He also received another petition signed by 6,000 people urging a minimum sentence of 25 years.

But in his first major ruling since becoming Master of the Rolls, Lord Woolf said yesterday that the Home Secretary was wrong to take the petitions into account because it was impossible for Thompson and Venables to test or match them.

A court would regard it as quite improper for this type of material to be put before it, he said, and to run a campaign designed to increase the punishment in a particular case would amount to interference with the due administration of justice. "This being the position as to the courts, I find it difficult to see the justification for the Home Secretary taking a different view."

"I can only describe the approach in these cases as perfunctory and as falling far below the standards that a court would adopt if contemplating sentencing a child for a period of 15 years."

Lord Justice Hobhouse and Lord Justice Morritt agreed that the tariff should be quashed — although they accepted that the Home Secretary had the right to raise the tariff recommended by the trial judge — and all three judges urged the Home Secretary to review the case and set another minimum term.

Lord Justice Morritt said that it could not be right that Mr Howard did not take into consideration material, including psychiatric and sentencing reports, which would have been available to a judge sentencing an offender to a determinate term a good deal shorter than the tariff he had in mind.

Mr Howard would now be able to reconsider the tariff in the light of all relevant information, which he should disclose to the boys' lawyers, the judge said.

The decision was greeted with anger, however, by Denise Bulger, the murdered boy's mother, who said it was disgusting that the court should tell Mr Howard to ignore the petition. "I think he did the right thing taking it into account," she said. "I hope he does not reconsider and sticks to the 15 years he set. They deserve a lot longer. They deserve life."

Conservative MPs, too, accused the judges of "setting themselves above the public" and of putting the interests of the criminal over those of the victim.

But Stephen Shaw of the Prison Reform Trust welcomed the ruling, saying: "A politician seeking re-election should play no part in deciding how long offenders spend in prison. Britain is a country ruled by law, not by tabloid newspapers."

Fears for Venables, page 2
Leading article, page 15



One face among thousands at a memorial service in the city's re-opened Centennial Park yesterday for victims of the Atlanta bombing. Report, page 10

Games plan that flopped

FROM JOHN GOODBODY, SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT, IN ATLANTA

THE Government yesterday asked for an unprecedented meeting with the British Olympic Association over the lack of success at the games.

The dearth of success is particularly embarrassing for the Prime Minister because last year he had announced a plan, *Raising the Game*, to revitalise sport from school to international level.

Iain Sproat, the Minister for Sport, phoned Dick Palmer, the British Olympic Association secretary, to set up a debriefing session on the

team's return to London next week. In the first ten days of competition Britain won only one gold medal through Steve Redgrave and Matthew Pinsent in the coxless pairs.

There are fears the haul here will be the worst since 1952, when only one gold and a total of 11 medals were won. Mr Palmer, who has attended all the summer and winter Olympics, said the real problem was the lack of money, compared to other countries, for preparation. "People can moan that other nations are

overtaking and I would agree. But look at the money they have invested in sport."

He cited the example of France, which has a similar population size, and has already secured 13 gold medals. Mr Palmer added: "I have a message for John Major but I think these games have already told him what it is. We need money."

At the moment, medal prospects receive money from the Sports Aid Foundation, which is funded by donations from individuals and companies.

Strike curbs threatened as post deal is rejected

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHRISTINE BUCKLEY AND PHILIP BASSETT

THE Government is actively considering curbs on 24-hour strikes and imposing huge fines on unions that provoke disruptive disputes in the monopoly public services.

As more industrial unrest looms Ian Lang, the President of the Board of Trade, yesterday gave the strongest indication yet that the Government is preparing to legislate after recent disruptions in the Post Office and London Underground.

His warning came as moves to settle the postal dispute over pay and working practices suffered a setback when union leaders rejected the deal reached last week. The decision could lead to the ending of the Post Office monopoly.

The 24-member executive of the Communication Workers' Union voted overwhelmingly to reject the agreement thrashed out with Post Office managers during 60 hours of talks at the conciliation service Acas.

The agreement, drafted by senior managers and CWU leaders after weeks of negotiations, was quashed by the executive because of objections to clauses in the deal, which offers pay and working conditions improvements, on teamworking and first-post delivery targets.

The Government is expected to suspend the Post Office's monopoly on delivering letters with a postage value of £1 and under.

Amid Labour claims that the Government is deliberately "hyping" industrial difficulties for political reasons, Mr Lang will spend much of the next few weeks reconsidering plans rejected in the past for ending strikes in the essential public services. Ministers

have not ruled out the introduction of legislation in the autumn for the last session of Parliament before the election if strike action increases over the next few months, although they concede that it is more likely that the plans will figure in the election manifesto.

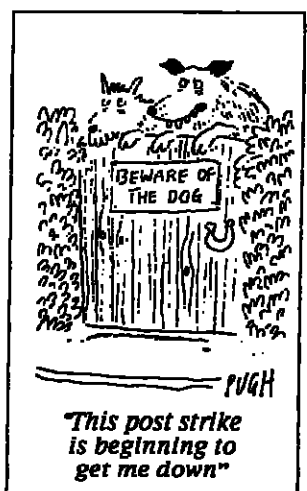
Mr Lang is to look at plans for unions to lose their immunity against legal action if they organise strikes in the essential services. Under these, unions would face the threat of damages payments which could bankrupt them.

Plans for introducing much longer "cooling-off" periods before strike action is called, and forcing unions to reballoon their members more frequently if a dispute goes on for some time have been looked at both by the DTI and the Downing Street policy unit and will be studied by Mr Lang.

The idea of withdrawing immunity from unions that stage 24-hour strikes has

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One-day strike, page 2



"This post strike is beginning to get me down"

USAir sues BA

The planned merger of many British Airways and American Airlines transatlantic operations was thrown into disarray when BA was sued by its American partner USAir.

Stalker claim

A stalker probably followed Lin Russell in the days before she was bludgeoned to death with her daughter on a country footpath, police have said.

Resorts not to be missed — for noise or bad food

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, TRAVEL CORRESPONDENT

HOLIDAYMAKERS are to be told the truth about what to expect at their chosen resort next year — a concept that has apparently never before occurred to tour operators.

Tens of thousands of British families who flock to the Costa Brava, for example, will be told in glossy brochures on travel agents' shelves tomorrow that "charm is not a word that springs to mind when talking about Lloret".

Thomson, Britain's biggest tour operator, made the ground-breaking decision to be honest about what to expect partly because it is convinced customers want it to and to comply in advance with ever-tougher European consumer legislation.

The hotels, many of which are criticised in the summer 1997 brochures, had not been told in advance of the plan to expose their shortcomings.

Descriptions of poor food and facilities are written by Thomson staff, but based upon the three million ques-

tionnaires filled in by their holidaymakers each year.

The brochures say that people "sniffy" about Benidorm on the Costa Blanca "have probably never been there". "The problem is they still think of it as a fishing village overrun by a scrum of hotels. Benidorm is now no more a fishing village than London's Docklands are docks."

Kuta in Bali is "all stirred up with swarms of motor-cycles that most of the young seem to rent." Turkey has grown so fast that "streets may not have pavements".

In the Dominican Republic "roads are dug up and then forgotten and the electricity supply is sometimes erratic".

The Playa de las Americas in Tenerife "jumps to music day and night as the young people who go there get a continuous fix of decibels".

Ibiza is "big and noisy and sometimes rowdy and night-life only stops at sunrise". Food at the Hotel Zoraida

Garden in Roquetas de Mar on the Costa de Almería "is not its best feature".

The Hotel Pueblo in Benidorm "is not the hotel to choose for a particularly quiet holiday".

Gourmets should avoid the Hotel Ambassador, also Benidorm, the food is disappointing at the Hotel Aquarium in Lloret de Mar, and guests at Sandals in Montego Bay should "be prepared for some aircraft noise".

Even attempts to be diplomatic have a certain barb. "The beach location more than makes up for any noise that may come from the nearby road and railway," they say of one Sri Lankan hotel.

"We have not taken legal advice to prepare ourselves in the event that any resort or hotel should sue us," said Charles Newbold, Thomson's managing director.

"All we are doing is telling the truth... we have taken the views of the most important critics — our customers."

Offer for doomed embryos 'immoral'

By DOMINIC KENNEDY, SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

AN OFFER by Italian doctors to buy 3,300 frozen human embryos due to be destroyed tomorrow has been rejected as immoral and illegal.

Peter Brinsden, director of Bourn Hall Clinic in Cambridgeshire, which may have to dispose of 1,000 of the 7,000 embryos it is storing, condemned the Italian request. "It is unethical and immoral to pass them on without the couples involved giving their consent," he said.

"How would people react if they found out two or three of their children were running around Italy in a few years time? The embryos are from couples who have lost touch with the clinic for whatever reasons and they must take some of the responsibility for the situation. It is not something we are looking forward to but we have no choice."

Bourn Hall Clinic is one of the test tube baby centres which is required by law to dispose of unclaimed embryos after the midnight expiry of a five-year deadline. An Italian

pro-life group has found 100 women, including two elderly nuns, willing to give birth to the embryos or adopt them. The Vatican has led condemnation of the mass destruction.

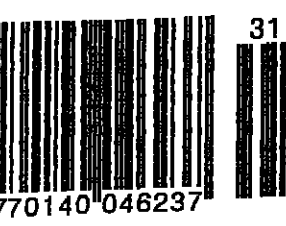
Claudio Giorlandino, medical director of Artemisia, a chain of Italian pre-natal clinics, said: "We'll give any technical and financial support so that they are not destroyed. I don't know how they can just switch off the machines lightly. It's a sin. It would be perpetrating thousands of abortions."

His organisation has offered to spend thousands of pounds transporting the embryos to Italy. "If we can save just one, it will be money well spent," he said.

The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority allows frozen embryos to be stored for only five years. They must then be destroyed unless the parents agree to an extension or let them be used for donation or research.

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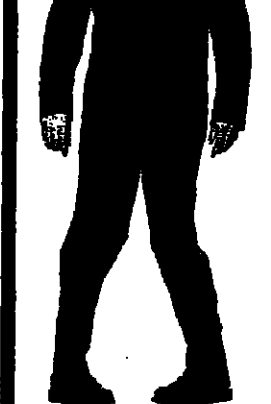
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Labour leader promotes MPs from modernising and traditionalist wings of party to key posts

Short criticises demotion as Blair rewards faithful



Hain: moves from Whips to new employment post

By Philip Webster
Political Editor

CLARE SHORT criticised Tony Blair yesterday for the way she had been demoted, as the Labour leader promoted some of his leading campaigning MPs.

Ms Short, moved from Shadow Transport Secretary to Overseas Development in last week's reshuffle, said bluntly that she did not like the way she had been treated. Asked whether she was hurt, she replied: "Of course, that is obvious."

She also suggested that Mr Blair was wrong to keep changing the transport spokesman job. "Transport is a mess. It has not been properly attended to. People who do it in Government and Opposition keep being changed. I did a lot

of work and was trying to get it sorted so I am a bit sad about that," she said.

But as a handful of Labour MPs received letters from Donald Dewar, the Shadow Chief Whip, rebuking them for disciplinary lapses over the Shadow Cabinet elections, Mr Blair moved to boost figures from both the traditionalist and modernising wings. Peter Hain, left-wing MP for Neath and long-time political campaigner, was moved from the Whips' Office to a new employment post where he will specialise in campaigning on job insecurity. The new chief employment spokesman is Ian McCartney, who will work for David Blunkett, the Shadow Education and Employment Secretary.

For the modernisers there was a big promotion for Tessa Jowell, who becomes deputy to Shadow Health Secretary, Chris Smith.

Her job as chief spokesman on women's issues goes to Janet Anderson. Henry McLeish, who was Harriet Harman's deputy when she was Shadow Health Secretary, moves with Ms Harman to become her deputy in her new role at Social Security. Another health spokesman, Alan Milburn, moves across to join Gordon Brown's Treasury team. Social security spokesman Keith Bradley switches to Transport.

Stephen Byers, already in the education and employment team, takes on responsibility for industrial relations and the social chapter while Doug Henderson remains in home affairs but with a special brief on devolution. Mr Byers was given the job of rebutting "false

accusations" about the social chapter by Government ministers and other Tory MPs. Mr Henderson will seek to spike Tory guns on devolution while another home affairs spokesman, Alan Michael, will campaign on crime and the voluntary sector.

Ms Short, in her first interview since her demotion, admitted she had no guarantee of a seat in the Cabinet if Labour won the general election.

"The Labour Party document position is that there will be a separate ministry for overseas development and it rather fudges whether it will be a secretary of state in the Cabinet or not," she told BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme. "It is true that under the standing orders of the Labour Party I am entitled to a job in the Cabinet if we

win the election. We will have to see what happens." She refused to say whether she had threatened to resign over the move but stressed her commitment to her new portfolio.

"I am honoured to be doing it but I don't like the way it has come about," she said.

Asked about Ms Short's comments, John Prescott, the deputy leader, said: "Disappointment is the word that comes to my mind when all of us who have been top of the Shadow Cabinet tumble to the bottom."

He added: "She wants to get stuck into this very important job in the overseas area and dedicate her kind of enthusiasm and energy to it."

Letters, page 15



Jowell: makes big jump to become deputy at health

US partner sues BA over plans for merged operations

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

PLANS by British Airways and American Airlines to merge many of their transatlantic operations were upset last night when British Airways was unexpectedly sued by its partner USAir.

USAir claims that the plans breach its agreement with BA and break American competition laws.

The sudden development came hours after the arrangement between BA and American had cleared its first hurdle when the all-party House of Commons transport committee agreed it should not undergo scrutiny by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Both the European Commission and the Office of Fair Trading are also examining the proposals and the OFT is much more likely to refer them to the MMC.

While attention was fixed on the manoeuvrings in London, USAir chiefs were seething on the other side of the Atlantic and yesterday made their own move to have the new arrangement quashed.

Their action was welcomed by Virgin Atlantic chairman Richard Branson who opposes the planned link.

"Although the news has come as a surprise the logic of the argument that it is anti-competitive is not surprising. If BA's own partner thinks it is anti-competitive then every regulatory authority in both the US and Europe can only reach the same conclusion," said Mr Branson last night.

BA has a 24.6 per cent share in struggling USAir and a "code sharing" deal which enables American passengers to fly from any city served by USAir in the United States and travel to London on BA. Senior BA officials, who also sit on the board of USAir, had been hoping to convince their partners that the proposed alliance with American Airlines would bring everyone additional benefits.

But USAir yesterday filed an action against both carriers for "seeking to undermine USAir's competitive position and to limit overall competition in US-UK markets".

"Our action taken in response to the proposed British Airways-American Airlines alliance advances and underscores the 'absolute determination of USAir to become a viable competitor in

key US-UK markets and is in the best interests of USAir, its shareholders, employees and the travelling public," said Stephen Woolf, chairman and chief executive of USAir.

The partnership agreement between the two, he said, meant that they both had a responsibility to "complete and advance the alliance".

USAir said it had divested itself of its own valuable routes to London, redeployed aircraft and employees, altered schedules, invested in joint marketing initiatives and undertaken other efforts to further its alliance.

But, it claimed, BA "acting in concert with American Airlines, failed to act in good faith and breached its fiduciary duty to USAir as a joint venture partner."

Earlier the select committee said that the planned alliance with American would be beneficial and could pave the way for a more liberal air treaty between the USA and Britain.

The committee said it believed the Government should consider lifting restrictions on US carriers' access to Heathrow and Gatwick airports.

The committee's report said: "This would allow the alliance to proceed and assuage some airlines' concerns about the dominance of the alliance at Heathrow."

The arrangement would give BA and American 80% of peak period slots and more than 60% of traffic between Britain and the US. But it said global alliances were now the norm and it would "not wish the UK to 'miss the boat' in these developments".

Labour MP Gwyneth Dunwoody said: "I believe that the alliance is a way of ensuring that the UK continues to be a major player in the air transport industry, incidentally protecting the thousands of British jobs involved."

British Airways said last night that USAir had not provided it with a copy of the complaint or discussed it before making the announcement.

"We are, however, confident that all our actions and agreements, including our proposed alliance with American Airlines, are consistent with our obligations to USAir."

Pennington, page 25



Thompson, left, and Venables, who will both be 14 next month, are held in secure units in northern England

Bulger killer 'responding well' to regime of rehabilitation

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

JON VENABLES, one of the boys convicted of killing James Bulger, is responding well to the counselling he has received since being sentenced. But psychiatrists express serious concern for his wellbeing if he is transferred to a young offender institution at 17 and then to prison.

The psychiatrists' reports were disclosed in the Appeal Court yesterday when three judges ruled that the Home Secretary acted unfairly in imposing a minimum 15-year sentence on the two boys convicted of murdering two-year-old James.

Venables has been exposed to a regime of education, discipline and care in a local authority secure unit in northern England. The judgment said that a full psychiatric report on the boy, who will be 14 next month, showed that he "was making excellent response to the therapeutic work and current family support that he was receiving". It added that "there would be

major concern for Venables to have to progress through young offender institutions to prison."

As the judgment highlighted the progress made by Venables, it disclosed that doctors for Robert Thompson, the other boy convicted of murder, who will also be 14 next month and who is held in a separate secure unit, had expressed concern for his future shortly after the trial.

The future dilemma for the authorities in deciding if and when to release the two boys was highlighted by Mr Justice Morland in a report written after the trial.

He said: "Very great care will have to be taken before either defendant is allowed out into the general community. Much psychotherapeutic, psychological and educational investigation assistance will be needed."

"Not only must they be fully rehabilitated and no longer a danger to others, but there is a very real risk of revenge

attacks upon them from others."

Both boys are likely to remain in the units for many years to provide stability and to help them to maintain links with their families. Thompson's mother and Venables' mother and father have changed their names and moved away from the homes where they lived at the time of the murder.

The boys, who were convicted at the age of 11, have not seen each other since the trial at Preston Crown Court. They are visited regularly by parents and can telephone home.

There are 28 secure units around the country. Most are attached to conventional children's homes and provide 300 places for serious young offenders and children with psychological difficulties.

They are designed to house groups of up to ten youngsters who are each provided with an individual programme of care and education. Thompson and Venables are regarded and

treated as children with a regime of discipline and education.

An exhaustive investigation into their educational and family histories and their psychological and psychiatric backgrounds has already begun. Initially, the units focused on the educational needs of the boys before tackling behavioural problems.

Inmates at the units occupy a single room within secure units that have common rooms with books, televisions, table tennis and pool tables. They can take part in a range of hobbies, including photography, music and carpentry.

The intention of the 1933 Children and Young Persons Act, under which the boys were sentenced, is rehabilitative, with every effort being made to prevent them from becoming institutionalised.

Their progress is reviewed every three months and the results are passed on to the Department of Health and to the Home Office.

£3.4m for bomb city in visit by Major

By Kate Alderson

THE Prime Minister announced a further £3.4 million funding for Manchester yesterday, during his first visit to the city since an IRA bomb exploded in the centre six weeks ago.

Mr Major, accompanied by Michael Heseltine, announced £32 million of lottery cash from the Arts Council for the damaged Royal Exchange theatre, and £200,000 for the Lord Mayor's emergency fund, which currently holds £1.25 million. It is being used to help small businesses and traders whose properties and stock were destroyed or damaged by the bomb.

"It will help many businesses, particularly those who face immediate hardship," said Mr Major in an interview with the *Manchester Evening News*. "The real problem is those who cannot get insurance cover."

"I think that we will reach the £1.6 million fund target. The extra £200,000 we've lobbied in means that is now in sight. This is a very positive city."

The Government had already announced a rescue package to begin rebuilding the city centre, using £20 million of reallocated EU funds and £1 million to help prepare a master plan for the building work.

The Prime Minister, who has been criticised for not previously visiting the city, dismissed fears that attempts to help Manchester would be bogged down in red tape or that ministers would forget about the problem.

He was shown around city-centre stores, and talked to emergency staff and traders. Terence Frost, of the *Jewel* Time repair business, said: "I told him business was really bad. What I used to take in a day I now take in a week. The council has helped because we have not had to pay any rent as yet but the summer has been a disaster."

A spokesman for Manchester Chamber of Commerce said it was very difficult for insurance companies to make interim payments to help struggling businesses as the full extent of the damage would still not be known for a few more weeks.

Judge calls for debate on drugs

A senior Scottish Judge has called for a wider debate on the decriminalisation of cannabis, claiming that alcohol and cigarettes are more dangerous to health.

Lord McCluskey believes tough sentencing policies have failed to stamp out drug-related crime in the United States. He argues that treating all scheduled drugs the same alienates young people who get enjoyment from some illegal substances.

The comments feature in a written response to a White Paper on crime and punishment by the Scottish Secretary, Michael Forsyth.

Moonies date

Sir Edward Heath flew to Washington DC last night to meet the Rev Sun Myung Moon, founder of the Unification Church, whose members are known as the Moonies. Sir Edward is one of several senior politicians, including the former US president Gerald Ford, who will speak at a conference with close links to the church.

Jet trio cleared

Three women accused of breaking into a British Aerospace factory and damaging a fighter jet with a hammer were cleared by a Liverpool Crown Court jury. Lotta Kronlid, 28, from Oxford, Andrea Needham, 30, and Joanna Wilson, 33, both from Kirby, denied causing criminal damage estimated at £1.5 million to the Hawk jet.

Jail attempt fails

Two Chief Constables failed in a High Court attempt to jail a journalist who refused to disclose the sources of a report to a police tribunal. Daniel Caravelli, 28, declined to say who supplied him with information that led to a report in *The Journal*, Newcastle, over allegations that Northumbria Police crime figures had been massaged.

Officer named

The customs officer crushed while trying to board a blazing boat during a drugs operation in the Moray Firth has been named as Alastair Souter, 47, a holder of the Queen's Gallantry Medal. Mr Souter, who was married with grown up children, was based at Dundee. He won his medal for saving five sailors off Dartmouth in 1992.

Missing corporal

A British soldier serving in Bosnia has been given compassionate leave to join the search for his missing sister. Ian Billings, 22, of the Royal Signals, said Jacqueline, 26, was unhappy about her posting to RAF Cranwell in Lincolnshire. She has not been seen since leaving her parents' home in Tamworth, Staffordshire, nine days ago.

Cosmetics claim

Evelyn Ross, 30, has been granted legal aid to pursue a claim for damages against Clinique, the cosmetics company. She alleges the company's beauty products harmed her skin and made her look like she had been punched in the face. Clinique is understood to be contesting the claim.

Aircraft brawl

Three men in their early twenties were arrested yesterday morning after a drunken brawl on an aircraft, police said. They were arrested at Manchester airport and six of their acquaintances escorted off the Air 2000 flight bound for Crete. The three are expected to be charged with public order offences.

One-day strike a popular weapon

By Christine Buckley, Industrial Correspondent

THE one-day strike is the most popular weapon in the trade unions' diminished armoury. Since 1990, one and two-day strikes have accounted for 25 per cent of lost working days, compared with 6 per cent in the 1980s and 4 per cent in the 1970s.

The duration of industrial action has fallen in line with the erosion of trade union power, privatisation, fragmentation of much of industry and growing job insecurity. Government figures and trade union research shows that workers are now far keener to take action that may annoy employers but is unlikely to provoke wholesale sackings.

Lengthy strikes are largely a thing of the past. The miners' strike of 1984-85 cost 26.4 million working days while the telecom strike in 1985 cost 1.5 million days. In the 1980s there were on average six stoppages involving the loss of more than 100,000 days. This decade's average is one.

According to the Labour Research Department, there has been a big increase in the proportion of workers in-

involved in strikes lasting one or two days. In the 1990s almost two thirds of workers in industrial disputes were involved in action lasting one or two days. In the 1980s and 1970s the proportion was just under a third.

Over time bans are also moving up the agenda as a cause for action. The amount of pay workers are docked when they take short-term action can vary. Usually they lose a clear day's pay and that is happening with the postal workers. However, workers who work fewer days than the average within a year can see their pay trimmed proportionately.

The Trades Union Congress found in a recent survey of 31 unions that 65 per cent of industrial disputes involved strikes of one or two days. A spokeswoman denied, however, that this indicated weaker trade union power. "Short action is a way of delivering a sharp warning to the employer without causing undue disruption to other parties,"

Leading article, page 15

Curbs

Continued from page 1

emerged as a serious runner in recent weeks. Ministers believe that they should be tackled because they damage the public most but harm the workers least, particularly if they earn overtime from making up the lost production.

Mr Lang told BBC Radio 4's *Today* yesterday that the reduction or removal of the union's immunity from legal action for damages caused by lawfully constituted strikes in the public sector was being considered.

His remarks were met with undisguised scepticism from Labour and the unions who believe that, far from bringing in legislation which even the Thatcher government considered impracticable, the Government is trying to put Labour on the spot by giving the impression that it will act.

John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader, said that Mr Lang was "playing politics".

The general secretary of the powerful GMB union, John Edwards, dismissed Mr Lang's intervention as a "political ploy" with the Government looking for scapegoats ahead of a general election.

TUC general secretary John Monks said Mr Lang was misreading the mood of voters.

Joe Kennedy calls for Sinn Fein talks

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THREE days after the Atlanta bomb echoed the terror tactics of the IRA, a member of the Kennedy dynasty yesterday urged the British Government to meet Gerry Adams, the president of Sinn Fein.

Joe Kennedy, the Democratic congressman for Massachusetts and the son of Bobby Kennedy, called on Whitehall and the Royal Ulster Constabulary to stop "acts of intimidation" against the Catholic and nationalist communities of Londonderry during the Apprentice Boys march next month.

"If Prime Minister Major can meet with a Protestant paramilitary group in London, he should sit down with Gerry Adams as well to keep the peace process from crumbling," Mr Kennedy said.

"While we condemn the violence of the Irish Republican Army and any who seek to gain political ends through violent means, we're very concerned about the inaction of the British to prevent violence and acts of provocation against the Catholics of Northern Ireland," Mr Kennedy

and Ben Gilman, chairman of the House International Relations Committee, were meeting Sir John Kerr, the British Ambassador, in Washington yesterday to press home their concerns. The meeting had been organised before the Olympics bomb.

British officials said that the Clinton Administration was marching in step with Whitehall and Dublin in deciding there should be no ministerial contact with Sinn Fein. "The chances of Mr Kennedy making these points resonate would seem even less likely given the events of the past few days," said one official.

The Roman Catholic Ancient Order of Hibernians has cancelled an Assumption Day parade through a mixed Protestant and Catholic village in Co Tyrone next month to avoid raising sectarian tensions. The order, which defends Catholicism and promotes nationalism, said it had made the decision after widespread rioting in Northern Ireland during the loyalist stand-off at Drumcree this month.

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Father describes his 'tough little girl's' battle for recovery as police reconstruct double killing

Mother and daughters were 'victims of stalker'

By RICHARD DUCE

A STALKER probably followed Lin Russell in the days before she was and bludgeoned to death with her six-year-old daughter on a country footpath, police said yesterday.

Dr Shaun Russell, speaking after police staged a reconstruction of his family's last walk home together, told how the "miraculous" recovery of his surviving daughter Josephine, 9, had helped him through the tragedy.

Dr Russell, 44, speaking from his cottage in Nonington, Kent, described how for three hours he did not know which of his two daughters had been murdered with his wife. Dr Russell said he was initially led to believe that Megan had survived the attack, but on arrival at hospital he found Josephine.

He said: "I didn't know which daughter had survived. I was rushing to London not knowing who I'd find in bed. Even though she was black and blue I knew it was Josie."

Dr Russell explained that police at the scene first thought both daughters were dead, but then a doctor found Josephine still had a pulse.

He said: "At that stage I was as much a suspect as anyone. I was in a pretty delirious state in those three hours. I thought they were all dead and saw nothing but a great big, black, empty future,



Shaun Russell at the gate of his cottage where he said yesterday he felt "gentleness and happiness"

no future at all. Then I saw Josie alive and now suddenly I had something to cling to."

Dr Russell, a lecturer in nature conservation in Canterbury, was speaking after a police reconstruction three weeks to the day after his wife and daughters were attacked as they walked home from school in the neighbouring

village of Goodnestone. He said Josephine's recovery from severe head injuries was close to "miraculous". He spends every day at the unnamed London hospital and usually sleeps in her room.

Dr Russell said: "Three weeks ago I thought she was going to die. A week later she was pulling out her tubes and

two weeks later she was climbing over a door to get to the fridge. She has an appetite like an ox. She is an extremely tough little girl."

Although Josephine can mutter only the simplest words and has the responses of a two-year-old, she has already been allowed out of hospital with her father to a nearby park where they fed squirrels and geese together.

Dr Russell, whose daughters always talked to their parents on first name terms, said the words managed so far by Josephine were "No, OK, Goodbye and Go Away Shaun".

He said it was not until 10 days after the attack that Josephine was told her mother and sister had died. "I was present but didn't do it myself. The main attending psychologist did that. I was one foot away. The doctors present told me that the message got through because she turned violently away."

"She has already has spontaneous outbursts of crying which are particularly upsetting to me. Things are starting to come back to her and she has started the grieving process. I've been offered counselling but turned it down. I save my tears for my own privacy."

He said watching Josephine's recovery was "like watching a young child grow up again before your eyes. She is still unable to concentrate for more than a few moments."



Actors follow the route the family took home from school in a reconstruction of the minutes before the attack

She can't respond to questions. To discuss events around this tragedy is a long way off.

"I don't feel any dread coming back to the house. I find it comforting with all the signs of my family around me. I feel gentleness and happi-

ness in the place." Detective Chief Inspector David Stevens said the attack was "almost unique in British criminal history" where a mother had been killed as well as her children by a stranger. The family terrier Lucy was also killed in the attack.

Mr Stevens said the likelihood was that the family had been singled out by a stalker who had knowledge of the local country lanes and footpaths. "Certain things tell me the offender may have seen Mrs Russell before. It could have been from a distance or

he could have spoken to her." Police said that blood on a heavily-stained towel, seen being dumped in a hedge by the suspect, matched that of one of the victims, but they would not say which.

The reconstruction used actresses because locals were still too upset to take part.

Post clerk took home a fortune in shopping bags

By ADRIAN LEE

THE dumpy post office clerk hardly merited a second glance as she struggled on to the bus with her bags of shopping for the daily trip home from work. With her greying hair and her plain clothes, middle-aged Elizabeth Shiel was the epitome of respectability.

But, over a period of one week, the mother of two systematically emptied the counting house safe at the main Northampton sorting office of tens of thousands of pounds.

That week, in 1989, her plastic supermarket bags, casually stowed beneath her bus seat, were stuffed with banknotes. In place of the money, she left her groceries. By the Friday night, unable to resist the temptation of routinely handling a small fortune, she had stolen almost £250,000.

She and her husband, John, now 42, went on the run in the knowledge that their crime would not be detected for a week because of a delay in accounting procedures. They lived the high life in France, Italy and Spain, thinking nothing of spending £400 on a single meal.

Yesterday Shiel, now penniless and homeless, was jailed for 30 months. She had lived as an international fugitive for almost seven years.

The total stolen — on three days — was £231,896.94, none of which was recovered. On Friday June 23, 1989, her husband was waiting outside, having shaved off his distinctive handlebar moustache, to drive them to Calais, the court was told.

Her husband — now estranged — was arrested six



Shiel: she spent seven years on the run after theft

months after the crime when he came back to England to collect more of the money. He was jailed for three and a half years after denying conspiracy to steal. His wife later slipped back into the country, living undetected in London for a short time, but then fled to Kenya using a false passport.

Pearl Willis, for the prosecution, said that the money ran out and she led a "poor and impoverished life", twice being jailed in Kenya for working illegally. On her release, in March, she came home.

She stepped off a flight at Heathrow into the hands of Detective Inspector Bob Smart, of Northamptonshire Police, who had been on her trail the whole time.

John Cartwright, for Shiel, said that she had benefited from about £86,000 of the stolen money. The rest had been left with a couple in Northampton, Roland and Marilyn Mason, who "somehow or other were relieved of that money". Shiel admitted theft.

Doctor is cleared of Christmas stabbing

By KATE ALDERSON

A DOCTOR was cleared yesterday of stabbing his stepson with a letter opener during a family argument on Christmas Day. Dr Ian Reid Entwistle said he was delighted with the verdict and would celebrate with champagne.

The jury at Liverpool Crown Court took almost four hours to find Dr Reid Entwistle, 64, not guilty of wounding Robert Fachiri with intent at Christmas 1994, and to the lesser, alternative, charge of unlawful wounding. Dr Reid Entwistle, from Gayton, Merseyside, denied attacking Mr Fachiri with the 18in knife in his sitting room.

During the seven-day trial the court was told that Mr Fachiri suffered a 5in deep wound to his abdomen and needed emergency surgery. The weapon was never recovered.

Mr Fachiri, 24, a diver, denied suggestions from Ian Alexander, QC, for the defence, that he inflicted the wound on himself so that he could sue his wealthy stepfather. He said that he grabbed his stepbrother, Alexander, by the lapels after he had called his mother a name and that Dr Reid Entwistle then got out of his chair and stabbed him with the letter knife.

Dr Reid Entwistle told the court that he did not stab Mr Fachiri, nor did anyone else and that there had never been any such knife kept in the room. The doctor, who was medical superintendent of the Cunard Superfund for 30 years, said that after the brawl his wife, Rosemary, began divorce proceedings. He had described the marriage as "most unusual".

Black and white washload survives overnight soak

By ROBIN YOUNG

THE badger simply wanted a comfortable place to sleep. The woman of the house simply wanted to do her washing. With incredible timing, they both chose the same place.

The young animal wandered into Mignon Muldoon's house just when she had gone to fetch a second batch of clothes for the overnight wash. It climbed into her open washing machine and snuggled down among the clothes that were already there.

A moment later, Mrs Muldoon returned, bundled more laundry inside, closed the door and set the machine to run overnight at 60C.

And that was the only possible explanation yesterday for the morning surprise when she opened her front-loader and found a battered



The badger: eight hours inside washing machine

and very clean badger inside. Mrs Muldoon, of Petersfield, Hampshire, said: "The washing was very smelly, which took me by surprise. Then I detected some movement and realised there was an animal staring straight at me."

"Then it jumped out of the machine and started running around looking very woolly

and soft and perfectly healthy." Mrs Muldoon called a vet. The badger, about six months old, was found to have a rump wound inflicted in a fight with another animal. After treatment, the RSPCA took it to a wildlife centre, where staff were astonished to find how well it survived its economy wash.

Graham Cornick, of the Hydestile Wildlife Centre, said: "The badger must have been in the wash about eight hours. It must have come in through a missing air brick in the wall and climbed into the machine when there were already some clothes in there."

It is now nicknamed Zanussi. Mr Cornick added: "It is going to be looked after for a long time because it might be attacked again if it is returned to the wild before it has fully recovered."

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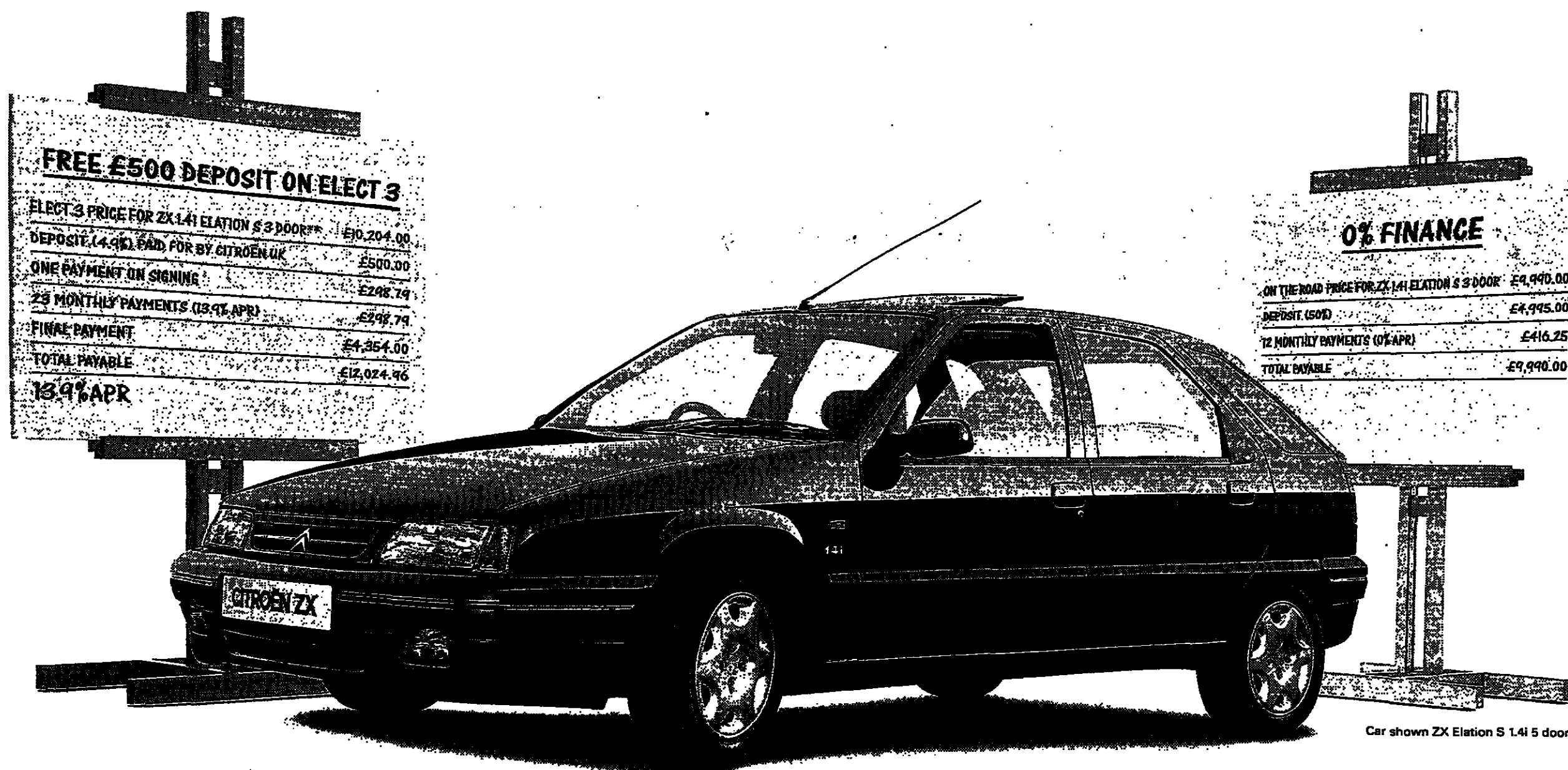
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We're still on Alan's side, say school friends who are now in a different league from £15m footballer

Teenage team-mates back Shearer's fantastic wages

BY STEPHEN FARRELL

FOURTEEN years after Paul Elliott and Alan Shearer played in the same team of under-12s, both are on wages of £180. Elliott earns that much in a week. Shearer in about an hour.

In 1982 all the boys in the trophy-winning Gosforth Central Middle School team were dreaming of football stardom. Some still play the game but none can match the fantastic earning power of Newcastle United's £15 million signing.

Shearer's annual income now includes £15 million a year from his new club (£30,000 a week), win bonuses of up to £10,000 per game, a £1 million slice of his transfer fee in five annual instalments, £100,000 from a Sunday newspaper and £60,000 as the top scorer in Euro 96.

This does not include the "sponsorship deals with Sugar Ruffs, Virgin Publishing and Classic Cola that have helped to pay for two expensive cars and a £450,000 house.



Gary Hays, a builder who plays non-league soccer, and his former team-mate Alan Shearer

Such was Shearer's popularity, however, that none of his schoolmates resents his success.

Paul Elliott, 26, right back, lives in Kendal, Cumbria. He went to university but now earns £180 a week on the production line of a confectionery firm, which also pays



him a £1,000 annual bonus. "I don't begrudge Alan the money," he said. "He's a good lad and deserves it."

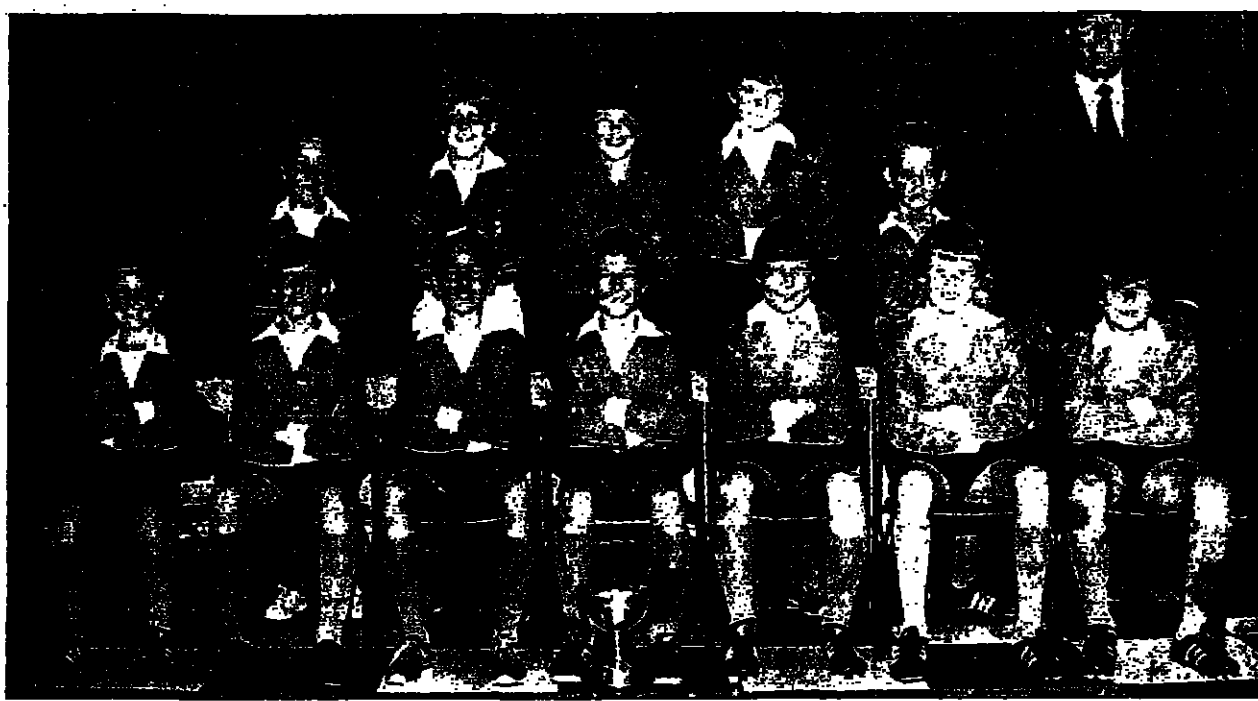
Garry Elliott, 25, right wing, is studying for a law degree. He gets a grant of about £1,700 a year and has a summer job with an insurance firm. "It's an awful lot of

money to pay for one player — too much really but if you want the best then that's how much you've got to spend and Alan's the best."

Steve Mayne, 26, centre half, signed on to receive £46 in family income support on the day that Shearer's signing was announced. He lives in a two-bedroom flat with his girlfriend and will go to university in September. "I'm quite happy with what I've got and he deserves his success because he's such a genuinely nice guy and great player."

Robert Crosby, 26, full back and sweeper, once had a trial with Manchester United and played for Newcastle Schoolboys with Shearer. Now he runs Fat Pigs Catering in Blaydon, Tyne and Wear. "I know we've all moved on but I'm sure he's the same nice lad he always was."

Andy McTaggart, 26, forward, played for non-league Newcastle Blue Star after leaving school but gave up after a serious ankle injury. Now he is a telecommunica-



The triumphant under-12 team of Gosforth Central Middle School: back row, from left, Chris Downes, Steve Mayne, Neil Whatmore, Robert Crosby, Andy McTaggart, teacher Brian Dockar. Front row, Nick Jones, Paul Elliott, Tony Harrison, Alan Shearer (captain), Garry Elliott, Steve Leech, Gary Hays

tions engineer, married with two children, and lives in Killingworth, Tyne and Wear.

Tony Harrison, 26, left back, a joiner in Newcastle, where he lives in the city centre, said: "I'm delighted he's done so well."

Gary Hays, 26, midfielder, is a builder and plays non-

league for Bedlington. He signed as an apprentice for Northampton Town but did not adjust to professional football. He once played for Northampton's youth team against Shearer at Southampton. "We lost 1-0 and he scored. He was always a very good player and a smashing

lad but I had no idea he would achieve what he's done."

Stephen Leach, 26, substitute, lives in Gosforth where he is a heating engineer at the AMEC offshore yard.

Brian Dockar, 62, teacher, never coached another school team after Shearer's under-12s. He retired in 1982 and

lives in Whitley Bay on a pension and his earnings as part-time secretary of a golf club. "I'm delighted he's done so well. He was the best footballer I ever had in any of my teams, but it's unbelievable to think anybody I taught could ever be earning that sort of money. It's all crazy."

PC cleared of sex assaults escapes force discipline

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A POLICE officer who was cleared on the instructions of a judge of indecently assaulting two policewomen is to return to the beat without being officially disciplined.

PC Robert Bridle was found not guilty of four charges last week after Judge McCallum told Bradford Crown Court that his actions stemmed from "the sort of behaviour people are liable to indulge in when there's a lot of tension around."

The judge told the jury the case would be "dealt with in a more suitable forum" and West Yorkshire Police promised they would "robustly pursue" further action against the 41-year-old officer.

But they said yesterday that because PC Bridle, who has been suspended from work for nearly two years after allegations by two policewomen and a civilian, had already been tried, there was nothing further they could do. Bridle, of Cleckheaton, West Yorkshire, was reinstated after a meeting with a senior officer who gave him "strong advice."

The force, which took legal advice on the issue, declined to say when and where PC Bridle will return to work. He still faces an industrial tribunal brought by one of his alleged victims.

The Home Secretary recently proposed radical changes to the system whereby an officer cannot be tried a second time if he has already been tried by a court. Chief Constable Keith

Hellawell said that, in the meantime, "we have no option but to apply the present rules."

He added: "The force will continue to set high professional standards and will not shirk from pursuing action against its officers for any behaviour that falls below those standards. We will not tolerate sexual harassment."

"We should not forget the impact that this case has had on the officers who raised the issue in the first place. One of our key priorities will be to offer whatever help, support and guidance we can to those involved in the case."

The 25-year-old woman who is taking PC Bridle and the force to an industrial tribunal is also suing the chief constable for compensation for the psychological injuries she claims she has suffered.

John Goodwin, her solicitor, said: "This news doesn't surprise me after what happened in court, but it doesn't mean her allegations will be withdrawn."

PC Bridle was accused of trying to kiss the WPC and grab her breasts, as well as another officer's breasts, at Halifax police station.

His solicitors issued a statement on behalf of the officer. It said: "The decision of West Yorkshire Police to reinstate and not bring disciplinary proceedings within such a short time of his acquittal at Bradford Crown Court totally vindicates PC Robert Bridle in this matter."



Student fails in cheating case

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

A STUDENT'S 10-year campaign to clear his name of cheating and force Bristol University to reinstate his first class honours degree in mathematics failed in the Court of Appeal yesterday.

Francis Foecke, 38, has run up a £500,000 bill in his legal battle against the university authorities who decided, after an inquiry in 1986, that his examination results were too good to be true.

The court refused to overturn the decision to withhold the degree, effectively agreeing with the university that it was "beyond reasonable doubt" that Mr Foecke had cheated. The court also struck out a libel claim against the university and mathematics professor Geoffrey Grimmett.

Mr Foecke, an American, of Redlands, Bristol, studied computer sciences and mathematics between 1983 and 1986, when he sat an "unprecedented" 13 papers in his finals, achieving first class results in them all. He always insisted that he achieved his high grades through hard work but was regarded by his tutors as a poor student. His first-year results were so poor that he was almost removed from the honours degree course.

University authorities were immediately suspicious when Mr Foecke's answers mirrored model solutions outlined by the examiner. The papers even mirrored the mistakes.



Foecke: results judged too good to be true

An inquiry, chaired by Dr Andrew Paterson, of the university's mathematics department, concluded that Mr Foecke had used knowledge of the examiner's solution which could not have been honestly obtained.

At the inquiry, Ian Karsten, counsel for the Board of Examiners, said there was no other explanation than that he saw the outline solutions. The examiner had used an unusual method of calculation that was faithfully reproduced by Mr Foecke.

Mr Foecke, a self-employed builder, said after yesterday: "It is not over as far as I am concerned. I can probably proceed to the European courts. I am determined to find some way of venting this affair in court."

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New technique allows surgeons to perform operation through four small holes in chest

Keyhole heart bypass cuts scars and recovery time

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

HEART bypass patients will be able to leave hospital within three days and return to work a week later after a breakthrough in keyhole surgery.

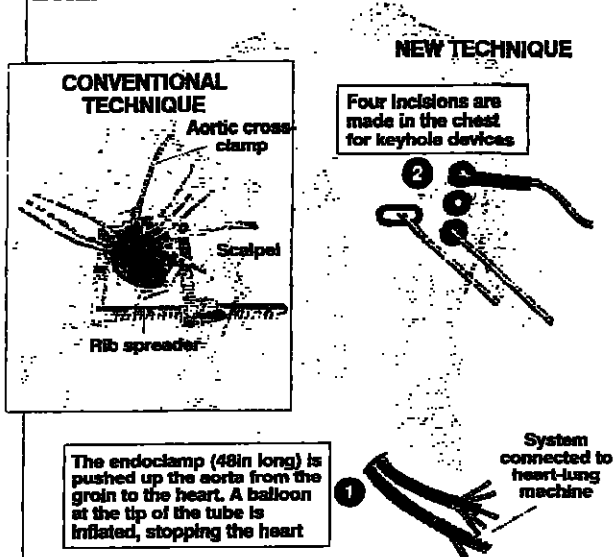
The new technique, which is being tested in three hospitals, leaves five small incisions in the chest and groin, the longest 2½ in. instead of a 9 in. gash from the base of the neck down across the ribcage.

Teams of surgeons at Papworth Hospital in Cambridgeshire, the Royal Brompton National Heart and Lung Hospital in west London and the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh have each used the new instruments and equipment successfully on three patients. The equipment, produced by Heartport, an American company, has been tested in the United States, Germany and Malaysia. The new operation takes four hours, slightly longer than using the traditional method.

They use delicate viewing and cutting instruments that allow them to work inside the body through small holes in the skin. The most important advance is a device called an endoclip, consisting of a 48 in. tube pushed, via a cut in the groin, through the aorta to the heart.

Once there, a balloon attached to the tube is inflated, stopping the heart so that it can be operated upon precisely. At the groin, the tube

BREAKTHROUGH IN HEART SURGERY



The endoclip (48in long) is pushed up the aorta from the groin to the heart. A balloon at the tip of the tube is inflated, stopping the heart

divides into two pipes connected to a heart-lung machine that takes blood in and out of the body, effectively replacing the organs' functions.

In conventional bypass operations, surgeons expose the heart to attach it to a heart-lung machine; it is stopped with a stainless steel clamp. They then use a scalpel to cut the diseased artery or arteries and bypass them using other blood vessels. The keyhole devices allow surgeons to perform the operation through four small holes in the chest.

Under the old method, having a rib broken and tissue cut

can necessitate a ten-day stay in hospital, with a higher risk of pneumonia, and a three-month delay before the breastbone recovers enough to allow normal activities such as driving a car.

The keyhole method allows patients to leave hospital after three days. They can put on clothing such as pullovers almost immediately, unlike a normal bypass patient. Doctors hope that the technique will prove suitable for most of the 25,000 yearly bypass operations.

Geoffrey Ellis, 61, a salesman from Suffolk, was able to

walk his nine pet dogs within days of returning home from Papworth after keyhole surgery, to the relief of his wife Audrey, who had been taking them out four times a day.

This week he cut the lawn for the first time since developing angina two years ago. While ill, he was unable to get as far as the garden gate.

"I can walk for miles, clean the car, go up a ladder. It has gone completely," Mr Ellis said. He returned to work a month to the day after his operation. Most bypass patients never return to their jobs because they need three months to recuperate.

The new method will be tested on 45 people in Britain, all of whom have a single diseased blood vessel. Only 500 bypass operations a year involve single vessels as most patients have several diseased arteries. The surgeons hope the technique can be adapted to help the rest. They also believe the swift turnover will allow more operations to be performed.

A new form of vaccination could provide better protection against tuberculosis, scientists at the National Institute for Medical Research in Mill Hill, north London, have shown. The existing vaccine, called BCG and originally introduced in 1908, is reasonably effective but can cause complications.

The Mill Hill team, led by Dr Douglas Lowrie, have



Geoffrey Ellis and his wife, Audrey. He was back at work a month after surgery

shown that equally good results can be obtained by injecting mice with a vaccine made from a stretch of the genetic material DNA that comes from the agent that causes leprosy, a mycobacterium closely related to the one responsible for TB. The team

isolated the length of DNA the leprosy bacterium uses to make a protein called hsp65, and injected it directly into the muscles of the mice. The muscle cells then began to manufacture hsp65.

The immune systems of the mice developed antibodies

against this foreign substance, enabling them to recognise and fight off the TB agent that carries the same protein.

Dr Lowrie said: "This is a very promising start indeed and with TB on the increase any new leads in fighting the disease have to be welcome."

Sun study looks for a ginger group

By NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

FAMILIES of redheads are being urged to help science to discover why they are more prone to skin cancer. DNA samples will be taken from generations of volunteers.

Dr Ian Jackson, of the Medical Research Council's Human Genetics Unit in Edinburgh, believes that unravelling the secret may help to find cures for a number of forms of the disease. He said: "Because of their pale skin, redheads almost invariably do not tan well. We want to follow the gene back and learn how it works. We need to take DNA from at least three generations — four would be ideal."

"Ideally we would like a really large family, some with red hair and some dark. Someone will ask them a series of questions and take DNA samples, by collecting blood samples," Dr Jackson, who is not a redhead, has already collected samples from red-headed members of his own family at a recent wedding. "It was too good an opportunity to miss."

Last year, the team isolated a gene which they think is involved in determining skin colour and therefore the likelihood of tanning or burning. Dr Jackson's theory is that the gene may control pigmentation, but cannot trigger red hair unless another gene is also present. The number of the Human Genetics Unit is 0131 467 8413.

Don't hold a gun to GPs' heads over odd patients

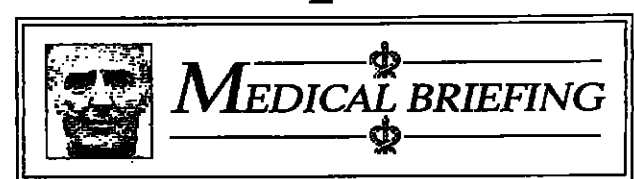
IT IS unlikely that the Government will endorse the idea that doctors should counter-sign a patient's application for sporting or other gun licences.

Doctors would be fiercely opposed, mainly because of the clinical difficulty in judging when a patient is no more than eccentric and when he or she is suffering from a psychotic disease that might prove dangerous. Barring all the bizarre patients on our lists from holding a gun licence would result in many empty buns on the moors on August 12.

Doctors also fear that a patient's confidentiality might be unnecessarily breached. Peculiarities revealed in consultations are usually perfectly benign. To disclose their existence on a firearms application would be unlikely to save a life but might endanger future practice. If a patient is obviously paranoid or dangerously depressed, no doctor worth his salt would fail to ensure that the patient was denied easy access to a gun.

Major shooting incidents seem usually to have been associated with people whose behaviour should have caused comment. In Britain, the diagnosis of schizophrenia is hedged about by criteria defining which symptoms need to be present before its presence can be acknowledged. In other countries the disease is regarded more as a spectrum of symptoms and such terms as schiziform, schizoid or schiz, frowned upon by experts, are used to describe the resulting psychiatric conditions.

British society and patients might be healthier if we were not so rigid in our diagnostic terms. Not everybody who



Dr Thomas Stuttford

has a gun is always a responsible citizen but they may not necessarily be dangerous. In country districts, shotguns are widely owned and sometimes misused, and most older country doctors have memories of the dangers such weapons caused before regulations were stricter.

I shall never forget the Fletchers. An appalling obstetric history had resulted in Mary Fletcher having three entertaining, boisterous daughters under the age of seven and a series of bloody miscarriages. Thirty years ago I was giving her a few words of advice on the advantages of the recently introduced Pill when her husband Peter appeared in the bedroom of their Norfolk cottage, having climbed the stairs that led, like a stable ladder, directly from the room below.

Peter was beside himself with anger and determined that his wife should not be instructed in such unnatural practices as contraception. Being rather busy with his wife's bleeding, I gave Peter a firm push. He fell backwards with a clatter down the stairs and lay still for a few moments before recovering and leaving the cottage.

The next time I was in the village I noticed him driving his tractor with a 12-bore across the dashboard. Peter's employer, Billy, was not reas-

suring. I had explained that I thought the gun might be intended for me. Billy replied: "Ah, doctor, but it is. Peter is terrified of you and said you nearly killed him last week, but he has promised he will only use his gun in self-defence."

On another occasion in a neighbouring village, a middle-aged man sent for me to examine his wife, who had gynaecological problems. The husband took his shotgun off the wall, loaded it, and as the examination proceeded held it pointed to my chest while he cocked and uncocked the old-fashioned mechanism from time to time.

As I carried out the examination I wondered if the husband was familiar with gynaecological procedures, or whether he might mistakenly think I had transgressed the standard examination procedures. But all was well: at the end of the examination he hung up his gun and said: "So glad I didn't have to use it — I have always liked you, doctor."

I thought I ought to discuss the incident with my senior partner but he was not impressed. "Don't you worry about that, once I delivered a baby with the father holding a gun to me, assuring me that if the baby died, so would I, I have never been so pleased to hear a newborn child cry."

Artificial skin used to treat girl's birthmarks

By NIGEL HAWKES

A GIRL aged 12 has had birthmarks repaired using artificial skin in what is believed to be the first such operation in Britain.

Andrew Burd, a surgeon based at Frenchay Hospital in Bristol, used a material called Integra, which mimics human skin, encouraging it to grow under a protective layer. So far the use of the product in Britain has been confined to the treatment of burns.

The girl, who has not been named, had the surgery on two birthmarks on her legs. Now Mr Burd hopes to use the technique to treat major burn cases and to remove tattoos and birthmarks.

Integra is softer and more durable than human skin and reduces the risk of unsightly scars. It can also be used to cover large areas: human skin transplants are suitable only for smaller areas.

Integra was developed by

Professor Ioannis Yannas of Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Professor John Burke of Harvard Medical School. It was given approval in May this year by the Medical Devices Agency.

It consists of two layers, one of collagen, a fibrous material derived from animal tendons, and the other of silicone rubber. When the material is placed on a burn, it forms a scaffold for the skin cells to grow around.

Natural enzymes digest the collagen, leaving a perfect layer of dermis — the lower level of natural skin — without scar tissue. The upper layer of silicone, there to protect the wound in the early stages and prevent moisture loss, is removed as the wound heals.

"This process takes a couple of weeks," Mr Burd says. "The silicone layer is removed and a layer of the patient's own epidermal cells — the upper

layer — is seeded onto the new dermis. After a further week a complete new skin has been formed with no scarring."

Integra is manufactured by Integrated Life Sciences Corporation of Boston, Massachusetts, in 10 in by 4 in sheets costing £800 each.

One patient to benefit is 10-year-old Andrew O'Donnell, who suffered severe burns to the upper body on holiday in France six years ago when a tent caught fire.

The technique was tried after four years of skin grafts. Andrew's mother, Linda O'Donnell, 36, from Dursley, Gloucestershire, said yesterday: "So far it looks very good. He has had other grafts, but the corners started to die. So when Mr Burd mentioned it, we agreed because we were willing to try anything."

Andrew said: "It itches a little, but I think it's great."

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Couple posed as officials to rob and assault pensioners

By JOANNA BALE

THREE pensioners were attacked and robbed in their homes by a young couple posing as social services officials, Birmingham Crown Court was told yesterday.

The three watched from the public gallery as John McDonagh and Catherine Bates admitted burgling their homes in the Small Heath area of Birmingham last November.

The court was told that the smartly dressed pair pretended to be from social services when they called on Stanley Clarke, 84, a retired insurance superintendent. Claiming they were there to fit smoke alarms after a fire next door, they asked Mr Clarke for £5 and later demanded more. When Mr Clarke refused, he was punched in the face, tied up and left on his bed, while the couple stole £195.

Two days later they called on Daisy Drew, 82, a 4ft 10ins great-grandmother who lived



McDonagh and Bates admitted attacks

alone. They forced their way indoors, again demanding £5. When she refused they repeatedly punched and kicked her in the face, then stole 74p from her purse and ripped a pair of gold earrings from her ears.

Mrs Drew suffered a fractured collarbone and a broken finger after McDonagh and Bates stamped on her hand as they tried to steal her wedding ring. She was left tied up in her home for more than three hours and needed 15 stitches to wounds on her face.

The same evening they called on Alberta Green, 79,

who also lived alone. As she emptied the rubbish outside her home they forced their way in, claiming to be relatives, and attacked her, ransacking her home.

They stole £600, leaving her bound and gagged on the sofa. Mrs Green was found by her milkman 36 hours later, suffering from severe shock and hypothermia.

McDonagh, 37, of no fixed address, and Bates, 27, from Lee Bank, Birmingham, both admitted burgling Mr Clarke's home. McDonagh admitted assaulting him and an identical charge against Bates was ordered to lie on the file. Both also admitted robbing Mrs Drew of her earrings and robbing Mrs Green.

The case was adjourned for a pre-sentence report on Bates and both were remanded in custody.

Mrs Drew and Mr Clarke have since moved from their homes and Mrs Green now uses a wheelchair. She was wheeled into the ground-floor



Stanley Clarke, Alberta Green and Daisy Drew, who were attacked and robbed in their homes by McDonagh and Bates



courtroom yesterday and stared at the couple as they gave their pleas.

After the hearing she said: "They were guilty so they have to plead guilty. I don't think very much of them. I think I could choke them. I hope they go down for a long time but it isn't what I think that matters. It is up to the court now."

Mr Clarke, a widower who also uses a wheelchair, now lives in Wales, a move he had planned before the attack. He said: "I was very pleased to see

them where they should be. I hope they are given a long term — they have amply deserved it."

The £195 stolen from his house was due to be used for shopping and paying bills, he said. He has since been paid £2,500 by the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board.

"It was only money but being knocked about is more serious than the loss of the cash," Mr Clarke said.

"When I saw them today in court it passed over my head. I

have no violent reaction at all."

Mrs Drew now lives with her daughter and uses walking sticks. She was helped into the courtroom by her family. She said: "They are both as bad as each other. I think it is terrible they were not sentenced today. I am still having nightmares. I am never getting over that."

Donna Purdue, 31, her granddaughter, said the family had suffered badly from the attack. "She is not the same

woman," she said. "She was so up and about. She was not 82 in her head. She has always been young, going out, buying things for people. Now she just sits there. At first we thought she was giving up on us but she has fought a real battle."

"She lived there for around five years on her own but now she lives with her daughter and she has never been back. When they attacked her, they attacked the whole family. It has destroyed part of our

family." Yesterday was Mrs Drew's first time out of the house since last November. She intends to return to court to see the pair are sentenced.

Detective Sergeant Julie Appleton said after the hearing: "We want a substantial sentence, double figures. They have ruined these people's lives."

"It has been difficult for the victims to get to court but I am sure they will come back again because they want to see these people punished."

Male teachers are shunning primary schools

By DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

MALE teachers will disappear from primary schools by 2010, Anthea Millett, the chief executive of the Teacher Training Agency said yesterday. Men are being deterred from entering the profession by its poor public image and, according to teachers, the risk of being accused of abusing pupils.

Over the last decade, the number of male teachers in England has fallen by more than 10 per cent to just 30,000, while the ranks of women teachers have grown by a similar amount to 140,000. The gender gap is greatest among new teachers and growing wider, according to Whitehall figures. Just one in ten male primary teachers is under 30 and more than two thirds are over 40.

Ms Millett, speaking at the annual conference of the Professional Association of Teachers, suggested that a poor public image of teaching may be to blame for the failure to attract men. She said the introduction of targets to encourage male recruits was now being considered.

Teachers at the conference said the lack of male role models in the classroom could be to blame for declining standards of achievement among boys. Girls perform better at every A-level subject except physics and 48 per cent of girls gain five good GCSE passes compared to 39 per cent of boys. They said men were deterred by low pay and the fear of being falsely accused of child abuse.

The agency, set up two years ago, cannot set quotas for male recruits to teacher training colleges in case it breaks sex equality laws. However Ms Millett said it would be "looking at the balance of men

and women and setting targets". She said the agency would also force every college to raise its entry standards each year for the next four years in a bid to elevate the status of teaching and attract more men.

She said: "If we go on at this rate we shall have no men left in the profession by 2010 in the primary sector. I suspect that once we reach a certain level it will be difficult to change but nurses have managed to do it."

Ms Millett said the media had a role to play in reviving the standing of teachers. Television programmes such as *Casualty* and *Chicago Hope* had helped boost the image of male nurses.

June Smedley, a retired teacher from Aston upon Trent, Derbyshire, told delegates: "The teaching profession is becoming increasingly feminised. You might like to consider what happens in any area of employment which becomes known as women's work."

Elizabeth Arnold-Davies, head of Grove infants school in Portland, Dorset, which has no male teachers, said: "I have been a head for fifteen years and I have never had a man apply for a job. A lot of men are very uncomfortable with young children and the modern trend to suspect any relationship between men and young children is backfiring."

"Men feel very much at risk. Small children want to touch people and men are very wary of this and it puts them off."

She said both boys and girls benefited from having a male teacher, especially if they were being brought up by a single mother, to give them a balanced view of society.

SATURDAY IN THE TIMES



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How Brigitte Bardot became France's most effective animal rights campaigner

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Philippines gives Briton 17 years for child abuse

FROM ABBY TAN IN MANILA

A COURT in the Philippines sentenced a jobless Briton to 17 years in jail yesterday for sexually molesting his landlady's two young sons.

Steven Mitchell, 44, formerly of Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, became the second foreigner to be convicted for paedophilia under legislation introduced in 1993 to combat an increase in sexual abuse in the Philippines. Ann Widdecombe, the Home Office Minister, watched the last session of the court as a measure of Britain's efforts to help Asian countries to combat abuse. She said: "Paedophiles must be punished, whatever their nationality and wherever they commit their offences."

Mitchell was ordered to pay £5,000 damages to the victims and the cost of the action brought by their mother. She said she saw him molesting one of the boys in his rented room.

Two other Britons are on trial in the Philippines for similar offences to Mitchell's.

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'Those who break the rules should resign'

Backbench MPs seek end to ministerial deception

BY ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER

SENIOR backbench MPs demanded a code of conduct yesterday to prevent government ministers from misleading the Commons.

The Public Service Committee wants a resolution spelling out the obligations of ministers to be open and honest and a requirement for them to resign if they breach the rules. The MPs have produced a long report saying that ministers should be accountable as well as responsible for their actions and must respond to criticism of their departments.

The report was commissioned after Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, and Derek Lewis, the sacked head

of the Prison Service, clashed over ministerial responsibility for prisons. The committee has a Tory majority.

Mr Lewis was dismissed over a damning report on jail security. He said later that the Home Secretary had not given the Prison Service the backing it needed. He complained that he had been the scapegoat for Mr Howard's reforms and accused him of frustrating policy with U-turns, interference and incompetence.

The MPs' report, *Ministerial Accountability and Responsibility*, has been given extra weight by problems encountered during the Scott inquiry, when it transpired that minis-

ters had given misleading answers to Parliament.

Under the committee's proposals, which it wants approved in a resolution of the House, all MPs, ministers and witnesses appearing before Commons committees would be "obliged not to obstruct or impede it in the performance of its functions".

Staff from the semi-independent executive agencies, chief executives and civil servants would be asked to give "frank and clear" evidence rather than to toe the department's line. "Ministers are accountable, but civil servants must give an account," the report says. It lays down guidelines

to try to prevent arguments between chief executives and ministers over responsibility and ministerial interference, but admits that there are some grey areas that have to be "fudged".

The committee consists of 11 backbenchers, including the former Public Service Minister David Hunt. They say that ministers who break the rules should be particularly culpable. "Because ministers have a duty to account to Parliament for the policies, decisions and actions of their departments and agencies, the House will regard breaches by them of the obligation described above as particularly serious."

The present system has too many "responsibility escape clauses" for ministers. They should not be allowed to fudge issues for political advantage. "Ministers must take special care to provide information that is full and accurate to Parliament and must, in their dealings with Parliament, conduct themselves frankly and with candour."

The committee recognises that ministers may need on occasions to withhold information, but says that they should do so only exceptionally. "They must not knowingly mislead Parliament and they should correct any inadvertent errors at the earliest opportunity. The House will expect ministers who do knowingly mislead it to resign."

The report says: "The Prime Minister must take responsibility to ensure that ministers live up to the standards required of them and to decide whether their performance is good enough although, in judging them, he will have to take into account the extent to which ministers retain the confidence of the House."

Giles Radice, the Labour chairman, said: "Parliament has never had a parliamentary code which sets out ministerial responsibility and we are determined to do it."

The report aims to give backbench MPs greater power. The committee wants MPs to be able to complain to the Ombudsman when information is withheld from a government department and for it to become standard practice for ministers to have to explain why information is withheld.

The committee has been promised a government reply before the Commons sits in October and hopes that the resolution will be approved before the general election.

PETER RIDDELL

Remedy lies in improving Parliament's performance

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Parliament has to improve its performance if ministerial accountability to the Commons is to be strengthened — and the multiple breaches of the principle identified by the Scott inquiry are to be avoided. That is the most important implication of yesterday's report from the Public Service Committee, *Ministerial Accountability and Responsibility*, which offers the most thorough, balanced and up-to-date discussion of the issue.

The committee decided to look at the topic because of the controversy over the meaning of accountability raised by the creation of the Next Steps executive agencies and the sacking of Derek Lewis as head of the Prison Service last October. The inquiry was broadened after the publication of the Scott report in February.

The debate has often foundered over the elusive concepts of responsibility and accountability. These have fascinated constitutional theologians and provided convenient let-outs for ministers and civil servants. The MPs have not tried to shift from the traditional doctrine of ministerial accountability to Parliament but have sought to pin ministers down — by proposing that, for the first time, Parliament itself should define what is required from ministers in a

Commons resolution and then by setting out the way in which ministers are expected to answer questions. The committee also makes some cautious suggestions about monitoring and the accountability of civil servants and heads of executive agencies.

There is, of course, no guarantee that deliberate obfuscation of the kind shown by the Scott report or the more familiar type of ministerial evasion on embarrassing topics can be avoided. Traditional constitutional conventions on the balance between ministers, civil servants and Parliament remain, and there is bound to be tension between the executive and the legislature, or rather between the Government and the opposition parties.

But if the committee's recommendations are accepted, as they should be before the election, the balance will have tilted a little towards Parliament, not least because the code of accountability will have been defined by MPs rather than just by the Prime Minister, as occurs now.

Members of the committee itself should define what is required from ministers in a

remedies lie in Westminster rather than Whitehall. The final sections of the report contain a frank discussion of what the Commons needs to do to make accountability a reality. Select committees have a patchy record in carrying out major investigations. The report takes up the idea floated by the Trade and Industry Committee for special parliamentary commissions to establish the facts on complex subjects, such as the arms-for-Iraq affair. There are broader questions about the focus and work of select committees — the day-to-day forum for accountability. This does not necessarily mean a big increase in staff or resources, on the American model, but rather a better use of what is already available, such as allowing the National Audit Office to carry out studies for departmental select committees.

As the report suggests, broader inquiries into the work of select committees and the legislative process are needed, preferably this winter to provide a starting point for the next Parliament. What yesterday's report shows yet again is how the Commons needs to strengthen its procedures if it is to fulfil its aspirations, and, incidentally, rebuild its reputation.

PETER RIDDELL



Mrs Bottomley with Sally Thomas, 7, from Stoke-on-Trent, at the report's launch

Lottery to fund renaissance of arts education in schools

BY DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

SCHOOLS will be allowed to apply for National Lottery cash to fund trips to museums, galleries, concerts and ballet as part of a government plan to revitalise arts education.

Virginia Bottomley, the National Heritage Secretary, said the money could also pay for musical instrument libraries, teaching workshops, and visits to schools by artists. Under the scheme, schools can apply to the Arts Council for "tens of millions" to fund specific projects and trips.

Mrs Bottomley spoke of making young people passionate about the arts — everything from contemporary dance and jazz to folk and circus skills — as a priority. She said, explaining that the National Lottery would make it all possible.

Setting the Scene, the Arts and Young People, published by the Department of National Heritage, recognises

how the arts enrich the quality of life and develop adult skills.

It is issued a month after a MORI survey of music teachers concluded that a shortage of 700,000 musical instruments in schools was to blame for falling standards in music tuition. Last year, the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music said that children from poorer families could lose the chance ever to learn a musical instrument because of cuts in tuition: it expressed alarm over the dwindling numbers of children learning the piano.

The Heritage report encourages "coalitions of schools" to apply for lottery grants. Earl Gowrie, chairman of the Arts Council of England, said: "Just as a symphony orchestra can bid for musical instruments, so can local authorities or a network of schools."

The lottery has already begun to transform the lives of hundreds of children:

£1,500 has paid for percussion instruments at Braybrook Primary School in Peterborough, and Robinswood Primary School at Matson, Gloucestershire, has built a 120-seat theatre and an art room with a £80,000 grant.

A spokesman for Robinswood said: "We have better facilities now, which is a great help. An arts centre has made a big difference to the school. It was impossible to get funding before."

The report encourages all schools to apply for National Lottery cash and give the arts an integral place in their development.

Colin Grigg, head of education for the Tate Gallery, was encouraged by the report but noted the irony that the gallery's annual grants for running costs are being cut. The National Curriculum will not incorporate more arts teaching in the timetable and Mrs Bottomley would not specify how much money will be spent under the arts initiative.



Erminia Finding the Wounded Tancred

Art scholars rally to save painting

BY DALYA ALBERGE

TWO of the art world's most eminent scholars have attacked Lord Rothschild for refusing to increase a lottery grant to save a 17th-century Italian masterpiece for the nation.

Sir Denis Mahon and Sir Hugh Leggett called on the chairman of the National Heritage Memorial Fund to top up the £1.53 million grant promised to the National Galleries of Scotland, which needs £2.43 million to buy the painting by Il Guercino, *Erminia Finding the Wounded Tancred*. It is £276,000 short of its target.

They asked why he did not take advantage of a government policy which states that lottery funding should be "flexible". If the money cannot be raised, an export licence will be granted to the Getty Museum in California, which bought the painting from the Howard family of Castle Howard in North Yorkshire, where it had hung since 1772. The National Galleries of

Scotland have secured permission to exhibit the painting to inspire benefactors to come forward before the export deadline expires on August 15. Sir Hugh, a former member of the Museums and Galleries Commission, and honorary adviser to the national portrait galleries of England and Scotland, said: "The heritage trustees should hang their heads in shame. What are we hanging around for?" Sir Denis, who has given £24,000 to the fund, said it was ridiculous for the heritage fund to maintain that it could not help any further.

Ian Sprat, the National Heritage Minister, said on Monday that, although partnership funding was required, he encouraged lottery distributors to be "flexible in their interpretations of this requirement". A spokesman for the heritage lottery fund said yesterday that it had faith in the fundraising abilities of the National Galleries of Scotland.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Farewell to Jade draws 500 mourners

Five hundred mourners attended the funeral of Jade Matthews, nine, who was found dead three weeks ago at Bootle, Merseyside. Members of her Cub Scout group formed a guard of honour at the church, where she was a bridesmaid last year for her mother Denise, 31, and stepfather Steven, 37. Her headmaster, Bob Branch, said: "She had such energy, such love of life, and she shared it with us through her smile." A boy aged 13 has been charged with murder.

Sorry sight

A thief who stole £568 of goods from a furniture shop in Darlington was ordered by the town's magistrates to go back and apologise. When he returned with a note from the manager, Anthony Middleton, 20, was given a 12-month conditional discharge.

Virtual lectures

Students hundreds of miles apart in northern Scotland will be able to share lectures thanks to £500,000 of government funding announced yesterday. Video conferencing will unite the proposed University of the Highlands and Islands.

Death payout

The family of an Irish policeman killed in Sarajevo while on UN duty has been awarded £500,000 compensation against the Minister of Finance by the High Court. Sergeant Paul Reid, 39, died when his vehicle was hit by sniper fire and crashed.

Shining example

Fire engines and police cars used headlights to illuminate an airfield at Rochester, Kent, to guide a helicopter carrying a pregnant woman on to the runway, which is normally closed at night. She was being transferred from hospital in Eastbourne to Chatham.

Sheep dip

A lifeboat rescued three RSPCA officers who became stuck at the bottom of a 400ft cliff near Lee, North Devon, after they averted down to try to save a stranded sheep. Attempts to pull the sheep up the cliff failed. It died, apparently due to stress.

Getting the bird

A pigeon lost four years ago during its first race has been found in China. Phil Hoddinott, from Dorchester, who released the pigeon in West Sussex, received a telephone call this week telling him that his bird had been found in Dalian, Manchuria.

Lloyds Bank Interest Rates for Personal Customers

CURRENT ACCOUNTS

Gold Service and Asset Management Service Current Accounts	Gross %	Net %
£10,000+	2.25	1.80
£ 5,000+	1.50	1.20
£ 2,500+	1.25	1.00
£ 1,000+	1.00	0.80
Below £1,000	0.75	0.60

OVERDRAFTS

	% Per Month	% APR*
Student	0.60	7.4

*The APR does not take into account any additional charges for arrangement fees/overdraft charges/monthly fees which may be applicable.

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

Investment Account	Annual Option		Monthly Option	
	Gross %	Net %	Gross %	Net %
£100,000+	5.10	4.08	4.98	3.96
£ 50,000+	4.75	3.80	4.65	3.72
£ 25,000+	4.40	3.52	4.31	3.45
£ 10,000+	4.00	3.20	3.93	3.14
Below £10,000	0.50	0.40	0.50	0.40

30 Day Savings	Annual Option		Monthly Option	
	Gross %	Net %	Gross %	Net %
£25,000+	3.40	2.72	3.35	2.68
£10,000+	3.15	2.52	3.11	2.49
£ 5,000+	2.85	2.28	2.81	2.25
Below £5,000	0.50	0.40	0.50	0.40

Instant Savings Account	Annual Option		Monthly Option	
	Gross %	Net %	Gross %	Net %
£25,000+	3.50	2.64	3.25	2.60
£10,000+	2.95	2.36	2.91	2.33
£ 5,000+	2.50	2.00	2.47	1.98
£ 500+	2.15	1.72	2.13	1.70
Below £500	1.00	0.80	1.00	0.80

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NET - The annual interest rate after deduction of tax at the appropriate rate; this is shown for all accounts.
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£25,000+	2.10	1.68
£10,000+	2.00	1.60
£ 5,000+	1.50	1.20
Below £5,000	1.00	0.80

1619 Account, Headway and Young Savers	Gross %	Net %
£500+	2.15	1.72
£250+	2.00	1.60
£100+	1.75	1.40
£ 50+	1.25	1.00
Below £50	1.00	0.80

Asset Management Service Investment Account	Gross %	Net %
£100,000+	4.98	3.96
£ 50,000+	4.65	3.72
£ 25,000+	4.31	3.45
£ 10,000+	3.93	3.14
Below £10,000	2.13	1.70

Deposit Account	Half-yearly Option		Monthly Option	
	Gross %	Net %	Gross %	Net %
£1+	0.25	0.20	0.25	0.20

Interest rates may vary from time to time. This notice lists current rates.

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Interest is normally paid at the net rate, unless the Account holder qualifies to receive interest gross.

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Europe may fine firms obeying anti-Cuba curbs

FROM MICHAEL DYNES IN BRUSSELS AND TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

EUROPEAN companies may face hefty fines for co-operating with American courts seeking to enforce President Clinton's "trading with the enemy" legislation, the European Commission said yesterday. The initiative is part of a package of measures designed to retaliate against the US Administration's attempt to extend American law beyond its continental boundaries.

In what is being seen as a clear signal that the European Union is prepared to stare down America, the Commission's proposal would make it illegal for European companies to co-operate with any legal action taken under the so-called Helms-Burton Act.

Brussels regards the Act, which allows US companies to sue foreign ones for "trafficking" in assets taken over by Cuba's Communist state, as a flagrant violation of national sovereignty.

Helms-Burton, an amalgamation of decades of Washington's anti-Cuba legislation, became law this month. After protests from Western allies, President Clinton, in effect, suspended the relevant part of its application until February. But, because of the Act's retrospective clauses, companies with investments in

Europe's rail freight industry will be all but extinct early next century without a considerable attempt to reverse its fortunes. Neil Kinnock, the European Transport Commissioner, said yesterday (Michael Dynes writes). Unveiling a White Paper, he called for a Europe-wide network of rail freight freeways to help the railways to compete better with road transport.

property confiscated by Cuba after the 1959 revolution could find themselves liable from November.

The Clinton Administration said last night that the Commission's measures would have no effect. A White House official added: "The Helms-Burton Bill is not designed to punish those who do business with Cuba but those who traffic in stolen property there. If the Europeans wish to divest themselves of stolen property, they will have no problem."

Under the Commission's proposal, European companies will be instructed not to obey US courts on grounds of "sovereign compulsion". The objective would be "to tie the

US legal system up in knots so that it could not function properly," one official said.

If the US courts then sequester some or all of the assets of European firms for failing to comply with Helms-Burton's provisions, European firms will be able to "claw back" equivalent damages from US subsidiaries operating in the European Union, the Commission said.

European companies will also be required to begin compiling a "watch list" of US companies that file lawsuits against them, so the Commission can monitor the scale of US legal action. Those failing to notify the Commission that they have become the subject of US legal action, or who co-operate with US courts, will face "proportional, effective and dissuasive sanctions", the Commission said.

Sanctions are likely to be similar to those that can be imposed under Britain's 1980 Protection of Trading Interests Act, under which companies can be fined up to £5,000 for every document they hand over to foreign courts.

Brussels is preparing to initiate legal proceedings against the US at the World Trade Organisation for violating international trade law, while officials are drafting plans to impose visa restrictions on US citizens in retaliation for the visa restrictions imposed on EU citizens.

The Council of Ministers is expected to decide on the Commission's proposal in September. Sir Leon Brittan, the EU External Relations Commissioner, said: "Europeans and Americans share a continuing desire to help to turn Cuba into a responsible member of the international community."

But, he said the Helms-Burton Act "is not the right way to achieve that goal", adding that it "offends and attacks America's trusted allies, damages business confidence in the US and beyond, and establishes a dangerous precedent".



Brittan: US Act will set a dangerous precedent

EU 'mad cow' bill could exceed £1bn

BY MICHAEL DYNES

MORE than £1 billion will have to be raised from the European Union's agriculture budget to help pay for eliminating "mad cow" disease, the European Commission disclosed yesterday.

Unveiling Brussels' new policy of robbing Peter to pay Paul, Franz Fischler, the Agriculture Commissioner, announced plans for a 7 per cent cut in cereal and set-aside subsidies to help to support Europe's beef farmers. The proposals will be submitted to EU agriculture ministers for approval in September.

The plan is likely to provoke a furious response from cereal and set-aside farmers. Many already believe that the commission is using the beef scare as a back-door way of reducing subsidies.

"This is a drastic situation which requires drastic measures," Herr Fischler said. "The crisis is large. It is the largest crisis faced by the beef sector in Europe's history. We need to take swift decisions."

Commission officials fear that the collapse in consumer

confidence that followed Britain's announcement that the disease could possibly be transmitted to humans who eat contaminated beef and beef products, may lead to a permanent drop in consumption of about 15 per cent.

Herr Fischler has been trying to restore confidence in Europe's beef and lamb markets, but he helped to fuel a new scare last week by announcing plans for a ban on the brains, nervous systems and offal of sheep after tests showed that sheep could be infected with the disease.

After the virtual disappearance of European surpluses, the beef mountain is back. Across the 15 member states, more than 50,000 tonnes of unusable and unsaleable beef is being taken into storage every month. This situation can be expected to continue until production is brought into line with reduced demand.

The Commission also hopes to reduce the beef surplus by slashing the extent and range of subsidies for beef farmers.



Changing face of Pravda — the 84-year-old Communist newspaper has become a tabloid to win more readers

Pravda turns over a new leaf

FROM RICHARD BELSTON IN MOSCOW

ONE of the last pillars of Communism came crashing down yesterday morning when *Pravda*, the once-venerable voice of the Soviet Communist Party, succumbed to market forces and hit newsstands as a tabloid.

In an extraordinary twist to the fortunes of a paper founded by Lenin 84 years ago, and still loyal to his ideology, the new-look *Pravda* will concentrate on crime, youth, fashion and other aspects of modern life which its ageing and dwindling readership had been spared.

Yesterday's edition was void of the usual ideological commentaries that filled the final broadsheet edition. It devoted a whole page to crime-fighting and carried an item about Masons in the British police.

The decision to turn the broadsheet into a tabloid came after a long-running dispute between *Pravda*'s Greek owners and Aleksandr Ilyin, the Editor, over the paper's future. The contest came to a head earlier this month in an unseemly battle, which at one point led to police being called in by the Editor to investigate the alleged theft of *Pravda*'s three valuable "Order of Lenin" medals which still adorn the masthead.

"There was never any theft. The orders



Lenin: the paper's founder

were in our safe all the time," said Theodore Yannikos, the director of Pravda International, the newspaper's publisher. "The move was just an attempt by the Editor to intimidate us."

The Yannikos family bought a controlling interest in 1992 when the paper was on the verge of collapse. Once published in 44 cities across the former Soviet Union and boasting a readership of 11 million, the daily has seen circulation shrink to about 200,000. It has faced repeated threats of closure by the authorities for a consistently pro-Com-

munist editorial line. For the past year Mr Yannikos and his brother Christos have been trying to attract new readers with *Pravda Pyat*, a slick weekly tabloid produced by a team of young journalists under a different editor.

"The incident over the Orders of Lenin was the last straw," Mr Yannikos said. "We demanded Mr Ilyin's resignation and suspended publication of *Pravda*. Starting this week, subscribers are receiving *Pravda Pyat* on a daily basis."

Although he would not say whether the old format would be published again, Mr Yannikos said the time had come for change.

"We have been very patient and poured money into *Pravda* even though journalistic standards have been falling," Mr Yannikos said. "The time has come to face the fact that our readers don't want some long, boring article taking up a whole page."

Mr Ilyin contends that the call for his resignation and the replacement of his paper by a 16-page tabloid is the result of President Yeltsin's victory over the Communists in this month's presidential election. "We are taking an independent position and that is why they don't like me," he said. The owners wanted to pursue a more centrist ideological line in keeping with Russia's other, more successful, mass circulation papers.

UN 'held back Nato help for Muslims'

BY MICHAEL EVANS DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE commander of the Nato peace force in Bosnia-Herzegovina disclosed yesterday that he had tried to send in bombers to stop the Serbs overrunning the doomed Muslim enclave of Srebrenica last year, but was blocked by the United Nations.

Admiral Leighton Smith, who retires today as commander of the 60,000-strong implementation force, Ifor, described the suspected massacre of thousands of Muslims in the town in eastern Bosnia last July as an "abomination that should never have occurred". He underlined the frustrations of being in command when the UN held a veto over military action.

Admiral Smith admitted he found intolerable the "dual key" system under which approval had to be given by a senior UN civilian or military official in Zagreb. During Admiral Smith's tenure, Yasushi Akashi, the UN envoy, was the civilian holding one of the keys. The UN military commander was General Bernard Janvier.

Admiral Smith said: "I hated the dual key. I thought it was the worst thing we could possibly have become involved in."

He said Nato bombers were ready to strike at Serb tanks advancing on Srebrenica, a UN "safe area", several days before the town fell. He made a number of appeals to the UN commanders to approve airstrikes, but to no avail.

No air power was used until July 11, when Nato aircraft gave close support to about 400 Dutch UN peacekeepers. But the intervention came too late to prevent the Serbs from seizing the town.

UN war crimes tribunal investigators are gathering evidence to try to prove that the Bosnian Serb forces killed up to 8,000 Muslims in the worst atrocity in Europe since the Second World War.

In Berlin, Judge Richard Goldstone, the chief UN war crimes prosecutor, said the failure of Western powers to order the arrest of Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, and General Ratko Mladic, his military commander, was "unacceptable".

Tobacco tax leaves Spaniards fuming

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

A TOBACCO war has erupted in Spain as thousands of kiosk owners, enraged by "an abuse of power" by the state-owned tobacco monopoly, threatened yesterday to slam down shutters on every street corner and go on strike.

If their threat is carried out, life will become unbearable for nearly 40 per cent of the population, last year's official figure for those who smoke a packet of cigarettes or more a day, making Spain the country with the highest per capita consumption of cigarettes in the European Union.

Seeds of the dispute between Tabacalera, the state tobacco company which controls distribution in Spain, and the kiosk owners, or *estancieros*, were sown on Friday when the Government announced a sharp increase in cigarette tax. The increase, which takes effect tomorrow, means that a packet of Marlboro will cost £1.75, a rise of 25p. The price of a packet of Ducados — the rasping cigarette that is Spain's most popular brand — will soar to 85p, an increase of nearly 20 per cent.

Kiosk owners, not surprisingly, were rubbing their hands in anticipation of a few days of panic buying. Long early-morning queues had, in fact, formed at tobacco kiosks all over Madrid the day after the tax announcement, with people buying several cartons each of their favourite brand.

Yet Tabacalera, fearing that many buyers were not bona fide smokers but "obvious speculators and profiteers", refused to replenish stocks at empty kiosks, leaving their owners fuming. New stocks, Tabacalera said, would arrive just before the new prices come into force.

The National Association of Tobacco Retailers is speaking ominously of strike action if "adequate compensation" is not paid. The Organisation of Tobacco Consumers has also attacked the state monopoly, accusing it of "wanting to have its cake and eat it too".

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There's a great deal going on

Burundi's leader urges neighbours to back his coup

FROM SAM KILEY IN BUJUMBURA AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

MAJOR Pierre Buyoya, Burundi's new Tutsi ruler, yesterday paid flying visits to East African leaders to canvass support ahead of a regional summit to consider his coup last week.

Officials in Uganda said the retired soldier met President Museveni in the capital, Kampala. Major Buyoya then headed for Tanzania where he met Julius Nyerere, the former President, who is now the international mediator on Burundi.

The Burundian leader was later expected to visit Arusha where he was to meet President Mkapa of Tanzania, who is hosting the regional summit today. On Monday, Mr Nyerere said Burundi was in danger of becoming another Rwanda, where up to a million Tutsis and Hutu moderates were killed in ethnic genocide in 1994.

Major Buyoya has not been invited to the summit. State-run Burundi radio said his meetings yesterday were "to explain the reasons why he took power".

In Uganda, a spokesman for President Museveni said Major Buyoya had not visited Kampala as leader of Burundi. "He came here as a leader of a strong faction," he said. Major Buyoya's mission was a desperate attempt to shore up support for his regime, whose future is as much linked to winning diplomatic support as to its vital national asset, its brewery. Security at the Baraudi beer and soft drinks factory, which advertises "Dynamite" on its gates, is tighter than at the television station, the airport or the presidential palace in Bujumbura, the capital.

Burundi's administration would collapse if it were not for the brewery, which provides 40 per cent of the Government's revenue as the country remains torn after three years of civil war and

ethnic killings. Taxes on the profits of the brewery, 60 per cent owned by Heineken and 40 per cent by the Government, are used to pay Burundi's civil servants and its 17,000-strong Tutsi army.

Among other sources of income is \$300 million (£194 million) a year in foreign aid. But this has ended after Western donors despaired of funding a country descending into anarchy, one Western diplomat said.

Burundi's earnings from coffee exports this year are predicted to fall by a third to \$10 million because of Hutu rebel attacks on factories and the poorer quality of beans.

Major Buyoya, a moderate Tutsi who came to power in a

day's summit, regional leaders are expected to discuss plans to send a peacekeeping force to separate Burundi's warring groups.

The democratic gesture Major Buyoya demonstrated in 1993, when he stepped down, may have won him a sympathetic hearing in Kampala. But observers said he needed rapid successes on more than the diplomatic front if his Government is to survive and gain the opportunity to fulfil his promise of ending the cycle of killings.

A veteran African envoy in Bujumbura said: "To win over the Tutsi extremists, he needs battlefield success. To win over the Hutus, he needs to curb the army's excesses. To win over, he has to prove he is genuine about peace. His intentions may be genuine. But he has much less than 12 to 18 months before Burundi's economy collapses. Then he won't be able to order an unpaid army into battle, pay his civil servants, or persuade Hutus to return from the bush to their coffee farms."

The envoy added: "The sad thing is that few of the [Tutsi] elite seem in the least bit concerned that their destinies depend on the uninterrupted production of [beer brands] Primus and Amstel."

□ Zaire accused: The international community should hold the Zairean Government accountable for ethnic violence between Hutus and Tutsis in eastern Zaire. Human Rights Watch says in a report today (Eve-Anne Prentice writes). The group says the Zairean regime is guilty of complicity in attacks by Hutus on Tutsis in north Kivu, eastern Zaire, where many Hutus fled to from the genocidal conflict in Rwanda two years ago.

The collapsing economy depends on profits from beer to pay the Tutsi army

coup in 1987, organised the country's first democratic elections in 1993. When he was overthrown by a Hutu politician, he stepped down. Now he desperately needs friends in the region.

He has said he needs "12 to 18 months" as head of a "transitional government" to bring an end to the civil war in which the Tutsi-dominated army and Hutu rebels avoid fighting each other, but slaughter civilians.

Mr Nyerere, who has been mediating between Tutsi and Hutu extremists, has called for international sanctions against the Buyoya regime, which has not been recognised by Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda or Ethiopia. At to-



A protester leaps from a rooftop towards Hong Kong riot police trying to clear pro-Taiwan Chinese being rehoused from the shanty town of Rennie's Mill

Chiang's veterans fight for Hong Kong shanty town

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN HONG KONG

THERE were clashes at the Nationalist Chinese enclave of Rennie's Mill yesterday as Hong Kong housing department personnel, backed by police, tried to force former refugees from China's civil war to leave their shanty town homes in a village scheduled for demolition.

About 175 police, most wearing riot gear, clashed with protesters as they formed a human chain on a mound of boxes and cooking gas cylinders, blocking the road into their remote settlement where dozens of Taiwanese flags still fly. One man leapt from a rooftop on to the police below, telling reporters: "It's okay to sacrifice myself."

After two residents and two policemen had been hurt,

housing department officials said they would give people two weeks to move to public housing which has been offered to them.

Hong Kong authorities say they want to use the area for new public housing, but residents argue that the government's plan to raze Rennie's Mill is politically inspired and related to China's re-sumption of sovereignty over Hong Kong next June 30. Many elderly residents fought the Communists in China's civil war, fleeing to Hong Kong in 1949 after the victory of Mao's forces over Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalists. Some still fly the Nationalist flag over their homes.

A housing department spokesman said up to 40 of the remaining 82 families still living in the village had now accepted the principle of moving to new housing. "We

will give the remainder until the end of August to leave," he said. "After that there will be no recourse but to force them out if necessary."

During yesterday's rumpus, a scuffle also broke out between those demanding more compensation but willing to move and another group who insisted on staying at whatever cost.

Troops told to shoot Jakarta 'troublemakers'

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN JAKARTA

INDONESIAN soldiers and police have been ordered to "shoot any future rioters on sight" to prevent any escalation of the weekend's unrest in Jakarta that left at least three people dead and dozens injured.

The order to "shoot on sight" was believed to have come directly from President Suharto. Much of central Jakarta was deserted yesterday after a second day of bomb threats in the financial district and rumours of stone-throwing near the presidential palace and the curfew in riot-affected areas. The stock market dropped another 1.3 per cent as dealers became jittery over the instability.

Major-General Sutiyoso, the Jakarta military commander, said that soldiers would be ordered to open fire "if any troublemakers renew their efforts to disrupt peace and order at the expense of the general interests of the public".

He added that all members of the security forces in the capital have been issued with firearms in anticipation of the violence spreading.

Political tension also mounted after an opposition Indonesian Democratic Party (PDI) spokesman said that 150 of its members were still missing after what has been described as the worst rioting in Indonesia for the last 20 years. Laksmiana Sukardi, the party's treasurer, said the missing "are still being sought by their families. We don't know what has happened to them, and we are worried".

He complained that central Jakarta military and police hospitals refused to give out information about their patients to the PDI. Diplomats have also been denied access to the same hospitals. This has fuelled fears that the real death toll from the weekend's unrest could be dozens.

Police announced yesterday that a third person had died in the unrest on Saturday and Sunday. The unidentified remains were found in the charred shell of one of the burnt-out buildings.

Many usually gridlocked streets in the city centre were empty for much of the day as office workers stayed at home,

some schools remained closed and conferences in hotel were cancelled. At least three office buildings, two hotels and two shopping centres were evacuated after bomb threats were telephoned to the buildings. Police bomb squads and troops were dispatched to the areas to assist with the evacuation of staff and making the buildings safe.

Nick Marshall, the British head of sales at Peregrine Investments, was evacuated for the second time in two days from the Chase Plaza building on the ten-lane Thamrin thoroughfare. He said: "Things do seem slightly out of control in this part of the city, but I would not liken the situation to the film *The Year of Living Dangerously*."

"The problem is that much of the capital's population has limited education but is well politicised and is well served with opportunities to demonstrate its discontent."

Romy Herliambang, marketing manager of one of the capital's five-star hotels, said: "People do seem to be very scared. All our conferences this week have been cancelled as a result of the rioting."

Hundreds of other office workers went home early after receiving unsigned faxes that the authorities had issued a night curfew on key city centre streets. Major-General Sutiyoso denied the faxes had any legitimacy. "The notice is phoney news and absolutely baseless," he said.

Shops in the vicinity of the presidential palace were closed early after false reports that a stone-throwing mob was on the rampage.



Suharto: said to have given shooting order

UN keeps murder details secret

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK



Buyoya: coup leader

THE United Nations is suppressing the results of an investigation into the 1993 killing of Burundi's first Hutu President, for fear that it could spark renewed bloodshed.

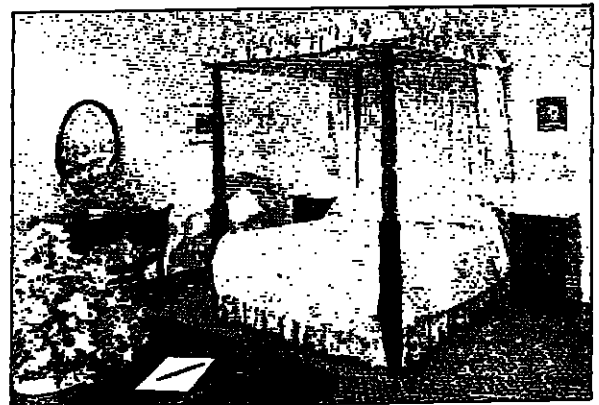
A UN commission of inquiry was set up last year to identify those behind the assassination of President Melchior Ndadaye and to suggest how to bring them to justice. The five-man panel presented its findings to the UN Secretary-General last week just as

Sylvester Ntibantunganya, another President from Burundi's majority Hutu population, was overthrown by Major Pierre Buyoya, a Tutsi.

UN officials gave a warning against publishing the commission's report, apparently because it implicates prominent people in the murder, which triggered a wave of killings. A final decision on publication will be taken when all members of the Security Council have read the report.

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THE TIMES
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Excavated tablets provide clue to Canaan treasures

FROM ROSS DUNN IN JERUSALEM

THE discovery in Israel of four ancient tablets may have brought archaeologists closer to locating one of the Holy Land's greatest lost treasures.

The four palm-sized unfired clay tablets inscribed in cuneiform script have been found at the excavation site of the ancient city of Hazor, referred to in the Book of Joshua as one of the great Canaanite kingdoms that dominated the north before arrival of the Israelites.

Professor Amnon Ben-Tor of the Hebrew University said that the tablets discovered so far are "in my opinion the most important of all documents found in this country". He hoped that they may point to the existence of two royal archives that could provide great insights into life during the times of the biblical patriarchs.

"We have not found the archives," Professor Ben-Tor emphasised, rebutting news reports of the past few days. "But we found indications of



Two of the tablets that prove Hazor existed

the existence of two archives. He is hopeful that they will be uncovered next year.

The tablets were discovered inside the royal palace, above where the royal archives are expected to lie. The discovery of such archives would be unprecedented in the Holy Land and would provide a wealth of information about life in the

Canaanite period, from the 18th to 13th century BC.

Professor Ben-Tor is leading a team of dozens of archaeologists and volunteers who have been working at the northern Israel site, ten miles north of the Sea of Galilee. The team has been hoping to find more about Hazor, which was first settled in the 27th century BC.

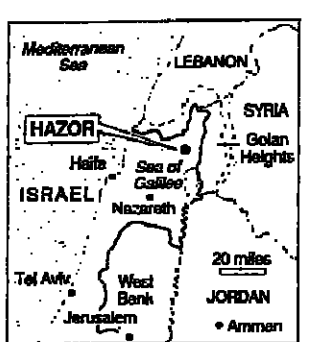
By the time of Abraham in the 18th century BC, the city, which was on the main trade route between Egypt and Babylonia, had become a major centre for commerce in tin, silver, gold and precious stones.

One of the four tablets displays multiplication tables. Another details a civil dispute between city residents and a third carries a list of goods sent from Hazor to Mari, another important Canaanite city in Babylonia.

The list includes the first mention of the name Hazor to be found in an inscription at the site, thereby confirming the biblical story of the city's existence.

Other site finds have included an Egyptian battleaxe and a 1-ft-tall bronze statue of a seated god.

Leading article, page 15



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Grace Bradberry on the Italian casual label that British youth is snapping up



ABOVE: (from left) Bandy top, £27.50; Doze skirt, £57.50; Mile top, £80; Ray skirt, £57.50; Trait shirt, £70; Ray skirt, £57.50; Bandy top, £27.50; Gant jeans, £75; Casanova jumpsuit, £157.50. All boots are period originals. RIGHT: Salsa-bis skirt, £57.50; mohair striped long-sleeve sweater, £52.50. Photographs by ELLEN VON UNWERTH (above) and JOAKIM JONASON (right)

Britain is renowned for its street fashion. So why is it that so few people dare wear it?

Eurocasual, American preppy, US sportswear — we'd rather buy into any casual look than risk experimenting with our own more radical street chic. The Gap seems inviting, trendy British stores much less so.

But there are signs that metropolitan twenty and thirtysomethings are turning back to our own homegrown style. The film *Trainspotting* led to an epidemic of oversized T-shirts this summer, while Britpop has brought still more people back inside the youth culture loop.

So who will be the chief beneficiary of this trend? French Connection may benefit, so may the new Hyper Hyper, due to open in the autumn. But ironically it is an Italian jeans company, Diesel, which looks set to clean up.

Since the late Eighties a series of cheesy, Technicolor advertisements have been appearing in style magazines and on Tube trains. There was even a bit of Benetton-esque contro-

Street chic with a sense of humour

versy when one ad showed a huge cigarette with the slogan "You only need one lung".

And for the past couple of years Diesel has been targeting DJs and Britpop musicians with considerable success. Liam Gallagher of Oasis wears the label, as does Jarvis Cocker of Pulp.

Cocker even opened the company's flagship store in Covent Garden, partly out of gratitude that his Diesel jacket had kept him warm during a night in a police cell. (Cocker, if you remember, was arrested after he staged an anti-Michael Jackson protest at the Brit Awards.)

So now the Diesel name has insinuated itself into the heart of British pop culture, and the Covent Garden store has begun selling street-style back to us. The new autumn/winter collection is called "Be A Tourist" because the design team see themselves as fashion tourists, stopping off at style capitals, particularly London, then reinterpreting the look.

Intimidated by the prospect of scouring markets and boutiques to create an individual look? You can buy individualism straight from the racks at Diesel.

But perhaps the cleverest thing that

the company has done is to set itself up as an "in-joke". Even its sunglasses, with the distinctive and much-copied holes down the side, were a sort of take-off of designer shades.

To reinforce this ironic message, the new Neal Street store has changing rooms designed to look like saunas and showers. As you stand before the mirror in an optical print shirt and bootleg hipsters wondering: "Will people laugh?", the answer is reassuring: "Only if they get the joke."

Critics will say that this is styling rather than design, and in a way they're right. The clothes drip with

cultural irony, and every item is reminiscent of something or other.

Seventies suburbia is a fashionable theme right now, and Diesel has tight leather bomber jackets, zip-up cardigans and striped mohair tops. Then there are the optical prints and stripes. Though they have clear Sixties origins, this is really the Sixties as seen through the refractive lens of Prada.

Oh, and of course Diesel still does jeans. This year, the bootleg shape is the thing to have — if your hips can take it. The man's bootleg even has a special name, the Farker. It's low-waisted, tight across the hip and kicks out at the bottom.

So what should you buy? A look at the autumn/winter collection throws up five basics: A-line hipster skirts in suede or denim, optical print nylon shirts or shirt dresses, zip-up cardigans, bootleg jeans and Seventies-style tight leather jackets.

● The Diesel store is at Neal Street, Covent Garden, W.C.2. (for your nearest stockist, telephone 0171-333 2255). Diesel can be reached on the Net on <http://www.diesel.co.uk>



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The Shiseido eyes have it with pearl-white highlighters

The newest make-up flies the flag in red, white and blue

RED mascara is the latest offering from CHANEL. As Cruella de Vil makes a comeback (yes, some designers really think this is a good idea), Chanel has brought out limited edition Rouge Noir Mascara in a deep red-black. Chanel claims that "Cils Magiques Crème" gives lashes "exceptional body with a very natural finish". But can there be anything natural about deep red eyelashes? On sale in September, price £15.

IRIDESCENT eye-shadows are the look for high summer and early autumn. Metallic blue is the colour to be wearing. But since few women actually want to look like extras from a Sixties sci-fi film, the savvy cosmetics companies have introduced highlighters that will give the right "shot" quality to less startling shades. SHISEIDO has introduced Shadowplay, a palette of three different pearl white shades (pink/white, pure white and blue/white), priced at £18. They're designed to be worn alone, or over other eye-shadows. And next month

PRESCRIPTIVES launches its Colour '97 Future Chic range, including eyeshadow tris with two normal, wearable colours, and a third which is an iridescent highlighter. The powders have been milled three times to produce a finer, non-chalky effect. The tris, which come in each of the four Prescriptive "colour families", cost £22.

TRUCCO is the latest make-up range to make the transition from the catwalk to the shops. The 1996 collection is called Colourful Colourless. Geri Cusenza, the creative director, believes that we should choose to have our faces either highly coloured, or completely pale. The make-up is designed to be used like a paint palette to create shading and contours. Many products are designed to be used either wet or dry. Look out for the "In-Pale" powder shadow which gives the eyelids an oyster-coloured sheen, and the "Fuse Highlighter", a cream that can be blended into the cheekbones. Both cost £12.25. For stockists call 0345 125545.

SAY IT WITH NUMBERS

"A CHACUN son bip" ("To each one his beep"), wrote French *Elle* this month. A gnomic statement, but it simply means that pagers are chic. *Grace Bradberry* writes. This is exactly what BT was hoping, of course, when it launched new-style beepers earlier this year. The company teamed up with Benetton to produce a Fifties-look design, and with Swatch to produce a watch that broadcasts numeric messages. But while BT always knew that its new "caller pagers" would be attractive to students, it could scarcely have banked on the emergence of a numeric

paper culture. The code "1-2-1", for example, means "Can we meet?", while "1830" translates as "Have a good holiday". No-subscription pagers do not appeal only to teenagers and impoverished students. All sorts of people now consider mobile phones a mixed blessing. So you have to be in constant contact with the office — but do you really want to have a full conversation with the boss at the restaurant table? French *Elle* says divorced parents love pagers too, because they can contact their children without having to talk to their ex-other half in the process.

Benetton's pager

BABY TORQUE

MINI

THE TIMES

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Sex has always been a commodity, but it may not be legally bought or sold



**Rachel
Campbell-Johnston**

Sir Ivan Lawrence, MP,

When the city was taken. Sex has always been a form of currency. It can no longer afford to imply too much moral approbation. How many women calculate their marriages in coldly financial terms? How many children suffer when these marriages break up? A prostitute merely confronts, more brutally than most, a moral corollary to her society. Even organisations like the Women's Institute, the traditional bastion of moral values and jam-making, are now prepared to put aside their primness and preserves and to debate whether or not

**'It is a vice
which
cannot
simply be
stamped
out'**

visitors. Streetwalkers, clamoring into strangers' cars or operating in seedy hotels, are vulnerable to attack from sadistic clients. They are often ruthlessly exploited by violent pimps who take their profit in return for protection. Stories are all too familiar of girls kept in virtual slavery by men who appropriate their earnings and then dole them piecemeal the food — and drugs — which they need to live.

But perhaps most importantly, the licensing of brothels would make the streets safer. In unofficial red-light districts such as Birmingham's Balsall Heath, Bradford's Lumb Lane or London's King's Cross, local communities find themselves under assault. Kerb crawlers are a traffic hazard. Female pedestrians are subjected to distressing harassment. If prostitutes were encouraged not to operate on the streets, it would free police to patrol these areas better. I live in a red-light district, where most of the women operate from rented rooms

cal impairment and who may find it more difficult to find a partner in other ways. Women can manifest a decline in libido as they grow older, especially after having children. Men more usually do not. I certainly would prefer it if my partner visited a prostitute with whom he had no emotional relationship, than embarked upon a protracted affair with another woman, involving all concerned in a network of lies of deception.

To deny the inevitability of brothels reverts to the hypocrisy of a Victorian age, when façades of order and propriety overlaid the anarchic realities of street life. If brothels were accepted — though not necessarily promoted — more men might feel they could visit them. We might witness a consequent decline in failed marriages, rape cases and sexual abuse of children.

Ours is an age in which sex has all too often been divorced

Sex is presented as a paramount need, a proof of glamour and success. It is not mere prudishness, it is positively irresponsible to create, nurture and profit from this need without realistically exploring all the ways in which it can be met.

Ours is an age in which sex has all too often been divorced

Do try a glass of the vintage BSE



SIGN OF THE TIMES

by Giles Coren

Why not, indeed. For years all you saw on a bottle was a vineyard name, invariably French and unfamiliar, and a date. But then came the British wine revolution, and after a transitional period in the late 1960s and early 1970s suddenly the wines were called chardonnay, cabernet sauvignon or riesling. The rankst pleb at least knew the grape variety, and the names became more prosaïc — the mystique was shattered.

And at Ehrmann Group they are considering a new import from Portugal. "It's called Barranco Secco Exceptionel," says Eggar. "But it has a simple label, just carrying the abbreviation in big letters: BSE."

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Alan Coren



■ If you must have your rows in public, please could they be more mundane?

On a recent dog-day afternoon, in an unsettlingly sportless lull between the recorded highlights of, as I recall, the men's synchronised triple frisbee and the repurchase of the women's 80m coxless egg-and-spoon, my channel-surfing finger inadvertently conjured up the middle of an audience-participation programme in which two grossly overweight American women were shrieking bitterly at one another on the grounds that, as the result of their close friendship, the mother of one of them had run off to Mexico with the father of the other.

Those of you who also pursue housebound trades — or who have given up pursuing anything at all in favour of allowing yourself gently to deteriorate on a cathode-flickered sofa — will recognise the sort of show I mean. Hosted by strapping toothy female carers called Oprah or Vanessa or Ricki or Chrystal (they are so famous as to be known solely by their Christian names, much in the manner of Caribbean hurricanes), they bring together the perpetrators and victims of ever more bizarre social disorders. These are then encouraged — not to say intensively trained and rehearsed — to expose their innermost distresses to the gaping viewership, while the famous Christian name eggs on a studio audience to put in its frenzied two pennorth, pro and con, until some kind of conclusion is arrived at, most popularly the one in which the major contenders are reduced to whimpering wretches.

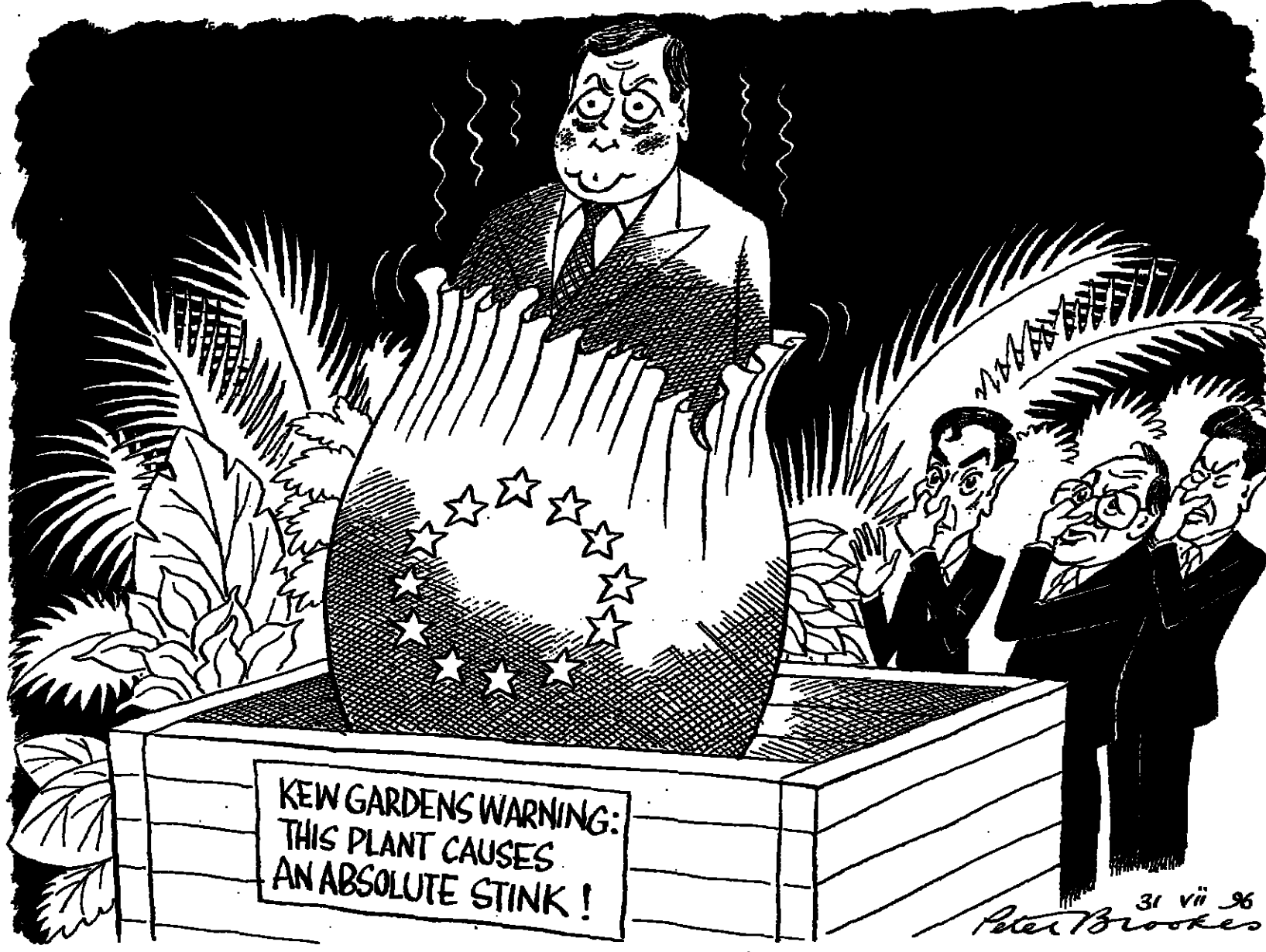
And when I say bizarre, bizarre is what I mean. A glance at the subtitles which every few seconds précis the disorder in question — presumably for channel-hoppers who may just have joined — will testify to that: beneath the tear-stained faces and shaking fists, the viewer is offered succinct explanations like "Wife keeps throwing him through living-room window" or "Is convinced next-door-neighbour has eaten her dog" or "Foster parents kept her chained up in cellar until she learned fluent Polish" or "Sacked for supporting insect rights", on all of which arcane issues the rabid studio audience has totally uninformed divergent opinions, which frequently spark off savage subsidiary skirmishes of their own, to the immense satisfaction of the famous Christian name and her production team.

And it is all unspeakably horrible. It is nothing less than voyeurism of the ugliest order. It is the contemporary equivalent of the Victorian freak show: as if there were not enough conventional wretchedness in the world — as if, indeed, there were not enough of it on the box — the researchers for these programmes have gone out to scour the planet for bearded ladies, Siamese twins, Tom Thumbs, elephant men, and borne them triumphantly home to titillate the *Schadenfreude* of the lucky normal. But perhaps worst of all — and it is certainly not something of which the simple Victorian boomtown could stand accused — is the fact that the whole unsavoury miasma sets out to justify itself not only by summoning our solicitude for those who are not as we, but also by suggesting that some of us might in fact be a bit as they, and are thereby helped and reassured by the shed light.

Well, it won't wash. The claim does not work on either count. The victims are too egregiously peculiar for that. It is impossible with so many other charges upon our concern, to empathise with someone whose sister-in-law keeps ringing him up to advise a sex-change, nor is this a problem with which many viewers need the advice of a studio audience.

You will, I know, twig instantly the covert purpose of this rant, for I have never been in the business of unconstructive criticism. I call not for the banning of these shows, merely for that retreat from the arcane to the commonplace which would justify all their sanctimonious claims. I want to see folk caringly trotted on beneath whose fraught faces run such strap-lines as "Wife insists on reading until 3am", or "Son plans to buy motorbike", or "Neighbour denies all knowledge of borrowed secateurs", or "His bank manager says pull the other one".

To say nothing of "Blames parents for giving him dull Christian name". If they'd only called me Hermione, I'd have had my own show by now.



Contempt is the answer

Terrorists should not be glorified, but cut down to their puny size

When an anarchist set off a bomb in the old days, the head of Scotland Yard would summon a team of detectives and say, "I want him caught". Not today. Now the world packs its bags and flies to an international conference to issue a communiqué. When Hamas exploded a car bomb in Israel last March, President Clinton summoned a terrorism conference at Sharm el Sheikh. When Arab fundamentalists killed 11 Americans near Dhahran last month, Mr Clinton put terrorism on the G7 agenda in Lyons. When a bomb brings down a TWA jet and another explodes in Atlanta, he sends his Attorney-General to join the British Home and Foreign Secretaries at a conference in Paris.

Terrorism conferences are two a penny. They are like state funerals, global, hotel-busting, gut-wrenching photo-opportunities. They do not stop terrorism. The only suspense concerns the number of "points" on the agenda. The 40 points of last year's G7 had shrunk by yesterday to 25. The list was unbelievable. After a quarter-century of conferring, after Lockerbie and Air India and now TWA, people are still talking about forming "an international database" or "new means of identifying luggage" or "methods to avoid cash laundering". Either these proposals are trivial, or they really might counter terrorism. If the first, this is a charade; if the second, those involved have been so negligent over the years as to be accessories before the fact. The American Attorney-General and the British ministers flew to Paris yesterday because both countries have elections in the offing. But that is to compound their cynicism with ours.

There is no such thing as international terrorism. It is a fantasy of Ian Fleming's *Dr No*. All terrorism is domestic, even if sometimes executed abroad or in the air. The killers at the Munich Olympics were not attacking Germany, but Israel. The mayhem that afflicted the Mediterranean region in the 1980s was directed at Western support for Israel. The Saudis who murdered the American troops last month were not destabilising America, only Saudi Arabia. They thought a big bomb might get the Americans out, as one drove the Americans from Beirut in 1983. An IRA bomb in London is not meant to undermine the British State; it just makes Britons fed up with Northern Ireland. It

suits statesmen to pretend otherwise, because it validates their posturing. But political violence is specific in its motivation and local in its target. It should be handled by the police.

Nothing seems to boost a dictator so much as to be accused of "sponsoring world terror" and ostracised. The world's longest established rulers — Castro, Gaddafi, Assad, Saddam Hussein, the Ayatollahs — have all benefited from such pariah status. American sanctions, plots, bombs and assassination attempts have served only to impoverish their people and maintain them in power. Students of the counter-productive in international relations need look no further than the glorification of terrorism by the West.

The best that can be said for the Paris conference is that it should be harmless. It was a reprise of March at Sharm el Sheikh, when President Clinton and John Major stood shoulder to shoulder and told the terrorists, "your day has passed"; 29 world leaders "stood against terror" and would stop it. They promptly agreed not to criticise Iran, Iraq, Syria and Libya in the final communiqué, for fear of upsetting them and damaging trade. This timidity was repeated yesterday.

When I saw the pictures of Presidents Clinton, Yeltsin, Mubarak and Arafat smiling hand in hand, I wondered how long it would be before the IRA and Hamas, the Chechens and the fundamentalists, or some random psychopath punctured their smugness. The answer was, not long, as the US Air Force and the people of Manchester learnt to their cost. Joseph Conrad's terrorist obeys a logic of his own. He is a simpleton, "calling madness and despair to the regeneration of the world". Our freedom is the sea in which he swims. We let him buy weapons and, in America, peruse the pages of *Pipe and Fire-bomb Design*. We believe in freedom more than we fear terror.

The truth about random political violence is that there is nothing to be done about it. Neither prevention nor deterrence has any effect. Catch one anarchist and the amoeba divides. Small is strong. The world's most protected public figures are gunned down in the street. The world's biggest armies are vulnerable to a suicide bomber. The world's proudest democracy, the United Kingdom, can be driven into emergency powers and special courts by a few dozen Irish killers.

There is nothing to do. Put another way, the one thing that can be done is nothing. Random violence is insignificant, except to its immediate victims. It kills a few people and wrecks a few buildings. True, the damage can run to millions and attacks swamp the world's media for a day or two. But a summit conference on earthquakes or gun-control or traffic accidents would save more lives and make more sense.

President Clinton's speechwriter, clearly floundering this week for some *bon mot*, suggested that the TWA and Atlanta outrages imperilled democratic values. He promised "not to let the acts of the wicked few destroy the dreams of the many". But who ever said that they could? He claimed that Atlanta's Centennial Park had become "our national common ground, a symbol of our common determination". This is ludicrously exalting the terrorist. It is setting him on a pedestal, turning the spotlight on his violence and crediting him with a power that challenges presidents and nations. It is as if the world's leaders have run out of real enemies and must pump puny ones full of air so as to appear bigger before they are defeated.

This is doubly wrong, since these enemies are not big and yet cannot be defeated. Terrorism does not undermine democracy. If democracy is vulnerable to a bomb in a park, then it must be rotten indeed — and Heaven preserve it from more substantial enemies. Statesmen are flying round the globe to exchange platitudes and trivial reforms in obedience to the world's most squalid criminals.

Worse, they have selected for this honour the criminals on whom their thunderbolts will have least impact. These gangs, or single individuals, will not quake in their shoes after Paris. Pseudo-political killing is endemic in open societies, as the Russians and the Americans are finding to their alarm. Britain's much-trumpeted terrorist policing cannot stop a Docklands or a Manchester bomb, any more than its trumpeted weapons laws could stop the Dunblane massacre. The essence of random violence is its unpredictability. The essence of a reasonably free community is that it is always vulnerable to such attack.

Just as John Major insists that Britain's present constitution is unimprovable, so did the Duke of Wellington in 1830, in a speech that hardened support for reform and did great damage to his cause. According to Hansard, "He was fully convinced that the country possessed a legislature which answered all the good purposes of legislation, and this to a greater degree than any legislature ever had answered in any country whatever. He would go further and say that the legislature and the system of representation possessed the full and entire confidence of the country." He could not have been more wrong. But Wellington was unrepentant. The Reform Act, he later said, would start a revolution "by due course of the law". It did not. Within six weeks of the reformed Parliament meeting, he predicted, "neither Lord Grey [who passed the Act] nor any nobleman of his order, nor any gentleman of his caste will govern the country."

As the historian Michael Brock points out, in five generations, the immediate family of that Earl Grey have included three Prime Ministers, five Viceroy of India, four Governors General of Canada, four Foreign Secretaries, two Chancellors of the Exchequer, four Secretaries of State for the Colonies or Dominions, and two First Lords of the Admiralty. "The second great Reform Act of 1867, was actually passed by Tories, although Disraeli had heartily opposed Gladstone's reform efforts in the previous Parliament. The Tories knew that if they did not accede to pressure for reform, they would lose power to the Liberals. Even then, Disraeli managed to conjoin reform with a redistribution of seats in the Tories' favour. And he lost three of his 'diehard' ministers in the process."

One of them, Lord Cranborne, who was to become the third Marquess of Salisbury and eventually Prime Minister, was a vociferous opponent of democracy. In 1883, he penned an essay for the *Quarterly Review* entitled, ominously, "Disintegration". "The dangers we have to fear may roughly be summed up in the single word — disintegration," he wrote. Just as the Conservatives now try to portray Labour as the unpatriotic party, Salisbury wrote: "Half a century ago, the first feeling of all Englishmen was for England. Now, the sympathies of a powerful party are instinctively given to whatever is against England. It may be Boers or Baboos, or Russians or Afghans, or only French speculators — whatever else may fall them, they can always count on the sympathy of the [Liberals]."

His son, the fourth Marquess, was no less convinced of the perils of reform. During debates on the 1911 Parliament Act, he declared that in the Upper House there was perfect independence, a perfection, as Roy Jenkins reminds us, "which was somewhat blemished by Crewe's reminder that the only Scottish representative peer who had voted for the [Liberal] Budget had been deprived of his seat".

The "ditchers", so named because they were prepared to defend the powers of the upper chamber to the last ditch, used every ruse that Conservative Central Office could now devise. The reforms were dubbed "a sentence of death" on the Lords, they were the policies of "revolution", they even amounted to "high treason". King Edward claimed they represented the "destruction of the House of Lords". In fact, as ever, no such alarming consequences took place, and the Upper House is still, 85 years on, biased towards the Conservatives.

So, from the evidence of history, voters would be wise to take the Tories' wilder predictions of disintegration and constitutional chaos with a pinch of salt. The Conservatives, meanwhile, can be comforted by history too. Although the Reform Act of 1832 and the Parliament Act of 1911 were regarded as radical Liberal victories, they were followed in due course by periods of Tory ascendancy. British voters, it seems, can take only a small dose of reform at a time.

Reform is the key to survival

Disintegration is a misplaced fear, says

Mary Ann Sieghart

New Labour, No Britain" shout the billboards. "Old Conservatives, Old Cassandras" could be the riposte. The British constitution, that eminently flexible guarantee of democratic governance, has been stretched and twisted in response to popular concerns many times in the past few centuries. Each time, reform has been opposed by conservatives; each time they have prophesied that revolution or disintegration would result. Each time they were wrong.

The great Reform Acts of the 19th century, the Parliament Act of 1911, the granting of votes to women have led instead to a record of continuous parliamentary democracy unmatched by any other country. It is precisely because the constitution has been adapted rather than preserved in aspic that it has proved so resilient.

In most of the great constitutional reforms of the past 200 years, the conservatives have been on the wrong side. Who could now oppose universal suffrage, the abolition of rotten boroughs, the reining-in of the House of Lords or votes for women? Might the Tories even now be on the wrong side of history by opposing Labour's plans for devolution and reform of the House of Lords?

Before the first great Reform Act of 1832, Lord Eldon, a former Tory Lord Chancellor, trotted out a familiar argument: "Touch one atom of our glorious constitution and the whole is lost." Sir Robert Peel used the "slippery slope" line: "I was unwilling to open a door," he said, "which I saw no prospect of being able to close."

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How happy?

PREPARATIONS are afoot for President Clinton's 50th Birthday on August 19. A huge concert will take place at Radio City Music Hall in New York, with Kenny Rogers, Tony Bennett and Aretha Franklin topping the bill. Whoopi Goldberg will be the M.C., while Leslie Nielsen, star of the *Naked Gun* films, will be providing the laughs.

This is all very exciting stuff for Clinton, who despite being the most powerful man in the world, still comes over like a slack-jawed redneck in the presence of proper celebrities.

Tickets for the bash cost anything from \$250 upwards, and all proceeds will go to the Democratic Party.

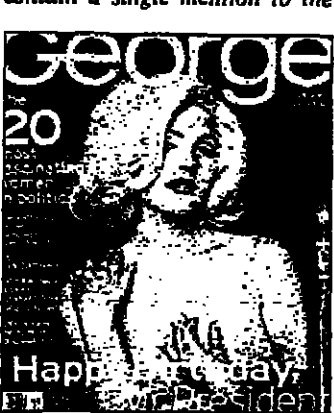
But a spectre is being summoned up at the feast by John F. Kennedy, Jr., son of the President and the editor of a political rag called *George*. On the front cover of his September issue, he has put the actress Drew Barrymore made up as Marilyn Monroe with the caption "Happy Birthday Mr President".

Rumours of an affair between JFK and Monroe were stoked to new heights when the actress sang a very public and sultry *Happy*

Birthday to the President in 1962. There have been suggestions recently that Clinton too has been having secret assignations with an actress in Washington hotels. Kennedy is unrepentant.

"If I don't find it tasteless," he says, "I don't know why anyone would."

●Damien Hirst, the sheep picker, still has a credibility problem. The Dictionary of Art, to be published by Macmillan in the autumn and running to 26 million words in 24 volumes, will not contain a single mention to the



Marilyn: friends with JFK

master of abattoir art. "Hirst has yet to stand the test of time," says the publisher.

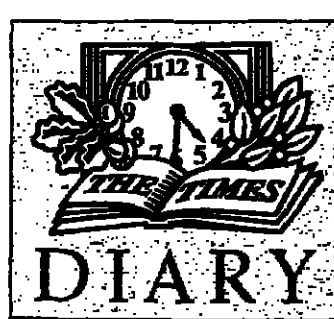
Ta-ra II

MORE TALES of Tara Palmer-Tomkinson, friend of the Prince of Wales and scholar (well, exhibitionist). Echoing round the peach walls of South Kensington's restaurants are reports that TPT and her Danish boyfriend, Mogens Tholstrup, have separated. Tholstrup owns Daphne's and The Collection, the favoured troughs of those formerly known as Sloanes. His blond good looks, casual dress and easy way with a mobile phone had already made him a big hit, but with Tara on his arm his celebrity soared. Together they were paparazzi darlings, far more than the sum of their parts.

Thunderstruck sums up Tholstrup's reaction to the stories of the split, as he dithered before an awkward "no comment". Those close to the couple, however, feel sure the golden times are over.

What a drag

FOR KENNETH BRANAUGH, a Saturday night trip to the cinema turned into an encounter with anti-smoking fascists. He had



gone to see the restored version of *Lawrence of Arabia* at the Odeon in London's Haymarket. During the intermission of the three-and-a-half hour epic, he bought himself a beer, pulled out a Silk Cut and sat back to talk to his friends. Up bustled a Nordic usher, squawking "No smoking here". Branaugh blanched, dropped his cigarette into a coffee cup and disappeared out of the cinema for a proper gasper. Olivier was never treated like this.

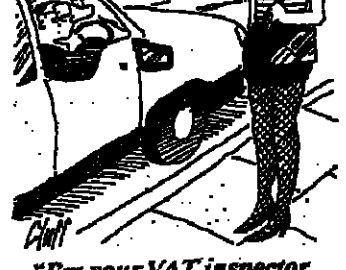
Doggy do

THE SAVOY has gone to the dogs. Cooking a leg to tradition, and with barely a thought for its patrons, the hotel has invited a pack of hounds to rampage around its ballroom. Tomorrow, 32 of them will trot down a dog-walk in front of a panel of judges in the Dogs at

Work Awards. Hounds will be competing in categories including "Top Showbiz Dog", in which Arnold from *Oliver* is the favourite, and "Best Woofler in the Workplace", for which a Scottish haggis hunter is frontrunner.

It's the first time we've allowed dogs other than guide-dogs into the hotel, and the decision was taken at the highest level," says a Savoyard.

Dame Barbara Cartland is delighted at the news but will not be attending herself. "Taking my Pekinese to the Savoy would be a rather expensive form of amusement. When I go to



Claridge's, my chauffeur takes the dogs to the park."

Early help

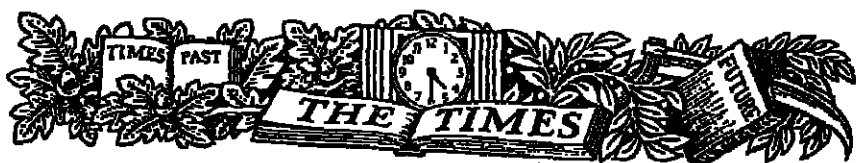
AFTER stepping up her search for a British nanny, the breathy singer Madonna has stumbled across the perfect specimen through her contacts at the glossy magazine emporium Condé Nast, home of *Vogue*, *Tatler*, etc. I understand that she is pinching a nanny currently employed by a senior fashion executive at the group, just to see her through.

Folksy

LOOKING for the sandal vote, the Liberal Democrat leader, Paddy Ashdown, has taken an interest in bearded folk-singing. He has been appointed patron of a charity devoted to wassailing. Folk South West.

"I have a great attachment to folk music and all it means about our roots and culture," says the action man. "I became aware of the deep richness of the West Country's folk music and I was steeped in Irish folk tunes as a child. The folk songs of the South West move me to tears."

P.H.S



IN THE DOCK

Judges, not ministers, should mend their ways

It is a far from dignified posture for a Home Secretary to be permanently at loggerheads with the judiciary. It is regrettable that the Court of Appeal yesterday found the Home Secretary to have acted unjustly in setting a minimum sentence of 15 years for the killers of James Bulger. It is the latest in a series of reverses for Mr Howard. As the Master of the Rolls, Lord Woolf, remarked, public disagreement between ministers and judges can "only tend to undermine the public confidence in the criminal justice system".

But Lord Woolf and his colleagues on the bench should consider the cause of the conflict. The Home Secretary has acted as he has in the Bulger case, and provoked judicial displeasure, only because the judges themselves have failed. The erosion of public confidence in the justice system owes more to a series of over-lenient sentences than any of Mr Howard's actions. He is right and the judges are wrong, and nowhere more so than in the tragic Bulger case.

The murder of James Bulger at the hands of two schoolchildren was a crime of unique horror. Mr Justice Morland, the judge at the trial of the killers, Venables and Thompson, described their crime as an "act of unparalleled evil and barbarity". Such an act demanded an exceptional response.

But Mr Justice Morland failed to match the stringency of his words with the severity of his sentence. He recommended that Thomson and Venables spend a minimum of only eight years in custody. That was subsequently revised upwards to ten years by the then Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor. That was still inadequate. Only when Mr Howard insisted on a tariff of 15 years was natural justice seen to be done.

Lord Woolf and his colleagues, wisely, accepted that retribution should play a part in the sentencing of juveniles like Venables and Thomson who are over the age of criminal responsibility. They also accepted that the Home Secretary is within his rights

to set the tariff. But exception was taken to the role Mr Howard assigned to public pressure, in the shape of petitions, in fixing the sentence.

Lord Woolf argued that the original sentence took into account the need to maintain public confidence in the judicial system and Mr Howard's genuflection to popular feeling could have resulted "in double accounting". But, whatever, the trial judge's intention, his sentence clearly did not command public confidence. The scale and intensity of public feeling in favour of a stronger sentence could only be ignored by a Government insensitive to public faith in the administration of justice.

When the death penalty was abolished Parliament made a compact with the people that their representatives would have the right to insist on a basement for sentences in certain capital crimes. By taking public feeling into account in the Bulger case Mr Howard was not bending to the roar of the mob but weighing in the balance the public support for the courts on which the rule of law ultimately depends.

In considering how the Home Secretary should exercise his discretion, the House of Lords has said that the minister must "have regard to broader considerations of public character than those which apply to an ordinary sentencing function". Mr Howard had regard to those factors, and in so doing acted not in defiance of the law but as a shrewd guardian of its reputation than some on the bench. It is a pity that this matter did not end with Mr Howard's decision. Appeals have only prolonged the pain of the victim's relatives and will have done nothing to incline the public's hearts towards mercy in the future for the killers. If there is anything to be gained from the rehearsal of these arguments again it can only be a reinforcement of the importance of allowing the public to be heard when their sense of justice is grievously offended.

DEFEAT FOR IRAQ

Turkey remains, reluctantly, loyal to the allied coalition

Since he was driven out of Kuwait but not out of power in 1991, President Saddam Hussein's strategy for dealing with the West has been based on two assumptions. The first is that the West would eventually tire of the military cost of containing Iraq and would relax their guard. The second is that the longer he remained in power in defiance of international sanctions and internal unrest, the readier Iraq's neighbours would be to conclude that the course of prudence lay in normalising relations with his regime.

For both these reasons, yesterday's vote in the Turkish Parliament was psychologically and politically important. The mandate for Operation Provide Comfort, the allied mission which protects Iraq's four million Kurds against attack from Baghdad, was due to expire today. The use of the southern Turkish base at Incirlik is crucial to its effectiveness; the alternatives, flights from Jordan or Cyprus, would not only be vastly more expensive but would depend on Syria's permission to overfly its territory.

Before he took office last month Necmettin Erbakan, the new Prime Minister and leader of the Islamist Refah (Welfare) Party, denounced the allied use of Incirlik as "an infidel invasion force" and vowed to terminate the mandate. Had he not abruptly changed his mind — and succeeded in persuading anti-Western Islamist MPs to vote yesterday for its extension — Saddam would have scored his first significant political victory against the international coalition ranged against him.

Operation Provide Comfort was mounted in April 1991, when Saddam crushed an uprising by Iraq's Kurds, forcing two million refugees across the borders into Turkey and Iran. The West's response was a massive

relief programme backed by a no-fly zone, policed by American, French and British air forces, prohibiting Iraqi flights north of the 36th parallel. The operation has never been popular in Turkey, which has for 12 years been confronting its own Kurdish separatists, the PKK, and which objected to the possible precedents created by this protective umbrella over Kurdish-inhabited Iraq.

Up to now these objections had been outweighed by Turkey's determination to play its full part in the international effort to curb Saddam, and above all by the priority it attached to its close alliance with America and its membership of Nato. But Mr Erbakan and his party, whose platform is both anti-Nato and derivative of Turkey's Western policies, have denounced Provide Comfort as a Western plot to reimpose by stealth the 1920 Treaty of Sevres, which envisaged an independent Kurdistan.

This Government is the first to be led by a religious party since Atatürk founded the modern, secular republic. This was an early test of whether government would moderate Refah's rhetoric. Mr Erbakan claims to have been convinced that the real purpose of Provide Comfort is to prevent a renewed rush of Kurdish refugees into Turkey. So it is, in part — but the more likely explanation is that America left him in no doubt that he risked a massive crisis in Turkey's relations with Washington. Turkey's military command has no intention of jeopardising them. The army is also fiercely protective of Turkey's secular constitution; and there have been three military coups in postwar Turkey, in 1960, 1971 and 1980. At home as well as abroad, Mr Erbakan is on probation. For the purposes of maintaining pressure on Iraq, it is just as well that he knows it.

THE DIG OF BINYAMIN

Canaanites: sound at multiplication, but weak in Scripture

These are the excavations of the children of Israel, which went forth out of Hebrew University to dig in the land of Canaan.

2. And they dug up the City of Hazor, yea that mighty city of Canaan the son of Ham; and Canaan was the patriarch of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, and the Hezballah, and other heathen that furiously rage together.

3. For verily, as it is written in the Book of Netanyahu: Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh.

4. Were the only two that ever got through to the land of milk and honey.

5. And Joshua at that time (about 1250 BC) turned back, and took Hazor, and smote the king thereof with the sword: for Hazor beforetime was the head of all those kingdoms. And mighty was his smiting.

6. And the generations of the Hazor dig correspond to the account in Joshua.

7. But now Professor Amnon Ben-Tor of Hebrew University followeth in the footsteps of Joshua to the land flowing with milk and honey, with a mighty host of archaeologists, volunteers and scribes from the Associated Press, Reuters and The Times.

8. And they have uncovered four tablets of clay no bigger than the palm of a man's hand, which go back four score and forty generations to the days of Abraham, when patriarchs roamed the Promised Land. For there were giants in the Earth in those days.

9. And thereon this is the writing that is written on the tablets of clay in the lost Akkadian wedge-letters of the Canaanites and, to avoid repetition of Hivites and Hittites, all the rest of the raging heathen.

10. One of the tablets is a lawyers' document, whereon is written that A telleth B that C is a liar: so what else is new under the sun?

11. For it is written that ye shall have one manner of law, as well for the stranger, as for one of your own country.

12. And another tablet listeth the tin and silver, the gold and precious stones sent from Hazor unto Mari, the mighty city of the Canaanites in Babylon the great, the mother of harlots and abomination of the Earth.

13. And yet a third tablet setteth forth multiplication tables, showing that the Canaanites were primitive accountants.

14. The Hivites were quango warriors and fat cats. For multiplication is vexation, division is as bad; the Rule of Three doth puzzle me, and Practice drives me mad.

15. Now these tablets from Hazor come from the royal palace of the King of the Canaanites, and Ben-Tor declareth that they are the most important of all documents ever found in the land of milk and honey.

16. Be that as it may, and Ben-Tor would wouldn't he? Those Canaanites may have been skilful at mathematics; but they can never recover their rightful place in history, because they lack Holy Scripture, especially as translated in the Authorised Version.

Decision time on single currency

From Mr Christopher Johnson

Sir, John Redwood ("A single currency won't wait", July 27) does not want to wait until after the general election to open up the debate on whether the UK should join the single currency. I agree with him, even though our conclusions would differ.

The Treasury Select Committee of the House of Commons yesterday published its report, *The Prospects for Stage Three of EMU*, with annexes by myself and two other specialist advisers detailing the arguments for and against UK membership of the single currency.

The Government should now initiate a White Paper setting out objectively the arguments for and against, to be published in the autumn. In this way, the issues could be openly debated. No political party would need to reach a conclusion before the election, and whichever party was elected could take a decision in 1997 against a background of public information rather than the ignorance to which many people now confess.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON
(Author, *In with the Euro*,
Out with the Pound, Penguin, 1996),
39 Wood Lane, N6,
July 30.

From Mr John Szemerey

Sir, John Major (report and interview, July 25) is quite right to refuse to decide in advance whether Britain will agree to join the European single currency area when the European Union goes over to having one stable money throughout the EU. Not only does this enable Britain to influence the future shape of European economic and monetary union (EMU), but it also gives British ministers a stronger negotiating hand. They can threaten that Britain will not join if it does not get its way on some key points, whereas if it says in advance that it will not join its views would not even be considered.

However, why does the Government not want a full, frank and open debate about the pros and cons of a single currency? Having one stable money throughout Europe, or at least in those countries having stable enough economies to be able to join EMU, will indeed be "the most important single decision that Europe and this country will take for many years", as the PM said in his interview.

So why did Britain turn down the money offered by the European Union last April to finance an information campaign about a single currency? Other EU countries like Germany have been happy enough to accept it. It is only if British MPs and the general public are fully informed that misunderstandings can be avoided and the country will accept — perhaps after a referendum — Parliament's decision to join or not to join.

Screaming headlines and snappy soundbites are no substitute for full and informed debate.

Yours faithfully,
J. SZEMEREY,
76 Marnixlaan,
B-3090 Overijse, Belgium.

From Mr Norris McWhirter

Sir, The single currency inevitably entails a single balance sheet covering the whole of Europe. On that balance sheet there will appear for the first time the consolidated 15-nation figure for their total unfunded governmental pension debts at a supeding £10 billion. This will be expressed, of course, in euros.

Because in Britain many pension entitlements have traditionally been funded, or they are self-contributory throughout the beneficiaries' working life, 99.7 per cent of this accumulated mountain of obscene irresponsibility was not even incurred by us. It lies at the doors of our 14 "partners", overwhelmingly due to decades of reckless vote-mongering by French, German and Italian politicians.

Each new British child is today born saddled with a combined national and unfunded pension debt of £9,000. Under the single currency, however, that same child would inherit not only a *per caput* debt of some £39,000 but the lifelong prospect of swingeing levels of taxation to bail out unfunded pensioners from other EU countries.

Yet still none of the major parties (even Mr Major's which, thank heavens, in December 1991 secured a British opt-out) will denounce the euro in advance of its planned imposition on December 31, 1998. Any party which fails to end its ambivalence at its 1996 party conference will become deservingly and, one hopes, permanently unelectable.

Yours faithfully,
NORRIS MCWHIRTER (Chairman),
The Freedom Association,
35 Westminster Bridge Road, SE1.

From Mr William Hall

Sir, Your leader today, "Off the fence", argues that a decision on the single currency can no longer be deferred.

It can and probably will be. Both Mr Major and Mr Blair will, I suspect, move heaven and earth to ensure that this issue is kept out of their general election campaign. Whoever wins will then claim a bogus mandate to lead the country kicking and squealing into EMU.

Yours sincerely,
W. HALL,
68 Bridle Lane,
Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands.
July 30.

Catholic criticism of the Queen

From the Reverend Dr J. P. O. Barry

Sir, William Oddie's attack on Her Majesty the Queen (reports, July 25, 27; letters, July 27), suggesting that she has "been seen openly to abandon the belief that marriage is indissoluble", is simply incorrect.

I doubt very much if the Queen, as an Anglican, ever held that marriage is indissoluble. However, while it is true that marriage *ought* to be indissoluble, as the Church Fathers taught, it is quite wrong to proceed to argue, as Mr Oddie does, that marriage *cannot* be broken.

I am sure that most people realise and regret that many marriages break down. Alas, the Prince and Princess of Wales are not alone. In her encouragement of their divorce, the Queen displays the honesty of the Anglican tradition which she must uphold. The marriage of Charles and Diana existed in name alone. The whole world perceived that essential fact. How the sanctity of Christian marriage would have been better served by insisting that the couple remain married in public, whatever

their behaviour in private, escapes me.

Had the Queen indeed insisted on the latter, as the Supreme Governor of the Church of England she would have been vulnerable to the charge of hypocrisy.

Yours faithfully,
JONATHAN BARRY,
The Rectory,
Comber, Co Down,
July 27.

From Mr J. Lovatt

Sir, The Dean of St Paul's (report, July 27) now puts his case against Dr Oddie's comments. Anglican leaders must realise that in attempting to become fashionable, bending to whims of minorities and making unnecessary changes to the scriptures, they are losing their lams and sense of direction.

Yours sincerely,
J. LOVATT,
Grant House, 19 Hollam Drive,
Dulverton, Somerset,
July 27.

Involving citizens in Ulster solution

From Mr Alistair B. Cooke

Sir, There is nothing new in politics. The plans for Northern Ireland which Airey Neave drew up before the 1979 election (with some small assistance from me in Chris Patten's Conservative Research Department) were virtually identical to the proposals put forward by David Trimble ("The politics of the attainable", July 25).

The Neave plan was summarised in the Conservative election manifesto of 1979: "... we will seek to establish one or more elected regional councils with a wide range of powers over local services". I expanded on this commitment in briefing notes which were circulated to Conservative candidates on April 25, 1979. They stressed that the chief objective of our plans was to "involve all sections of the population, regardless of their political outlook, more closely in the running of local affairs".

Like David Trimble, Airey Neave believed above all that the people of Northern Ireland should be able to take the issues which affect their everyday lives to locally elected representatives, as they can in the rest of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland. There is nothing narrow or bigoted in a true Conservative and Unionist prescription for Ulster.

Yours faithfully,
ALISTAIR B. COOKE
(Chairman of the Trustees),
Friends of the Union,
PO Box 1261, London SW3 4JF.

From Mr N. J. Mustoe

Sir, Two of your correspondents today suggest that the solution to the trouble

in Ireland could be for the majority of the population of Ulster to be repatriated to Britain. Presumably they both wish to find a solution that causes the least suffering.

On the contrary, their solution would involve the uprooting of a million people, torn from the land their fathers have handed down to them for hundreds of years. This pain and anguish would be halved, if the Irish minority of half a million was expelled to the South. According to your correspondents' rules, this should be a perfectly logical answer.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MUSTOE,
Blackthorn Cottage,
20 Cross End,
Thurleigh, Bedfordshire,
July 22.

From Mrs Verna Middleton

Sir, How kind and considerate your readers Mr Winston Fletcher and Mr L. Gilbert are (letters, July 22).

For 25 years here in Northern Ireland the majority of law-abiding, peace-loving citizens have endured civil unrest, murder, massive destruction of our towns and cities and acts of terror that have frequently reduced us to tears.

Now it appears that from peaceful southern England your armchair politicians are to resettle a large population — whether we wish to go or not. Is it might therefore to triumph over right? Where pray are we all to go?

Yours faithfully,
VERNA MIDDLETON,
9 Upper Knockbreds Road, Belfast,
July 22.

Tamil resistance

From Mr R. M. Withana

Sir, Your leading article of July 23, "Defeat for peace", and the subsequent news items of the Mullativu battle and the horrific details of the LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam) bomb in a passenger train (report, July 25) focused on the continuing tragedy of Sri Lanka.

The tragedy, more for the helpless Tamils in the north and the east (as pointed out in your leader), could continue, as long as Tamils in the UK and other Western countries like Mr S. Pothalingam and Mr M. Thiagarajan (letters, July 25) glorify the LTTE as saviours of the Tamils.

The LTTE has proved itself interested only in ruthlessly crushing any other Tamil views and controlling the Tamil-populated areas by totalitarian means, including the filling of their dwindling combat ranks by coercion. The fact that it has more than once spurned political dialogue with Sri

Lankan governments and unilaterally broken ceasefires to resume terrorism and violence is an indication of LTTE's real nature.

You are therefore right to state in your leading article that "isolating the LTTE is important". Regrettably such isolation will be made more difficult if the Tamil expatriates continue to fund and support the LTTE.

Finally, the raising of the Sri Lankan flag in Jaffna was not, as stated by Mr Pothalingam, to "humiliate the Tamils", but an expression of the Government's sovereignty over and responsibility for the welfare of the nation's citizens in Jaffna (discharged under trying conditions).

The military onslaught was not the creation of the Government but an action which any government would have to take if its territory and subjects are threatened by armed groups.

Yours etc,
R. M. WITHANA,
34 Little Borne, Dulwich, SE21,
July 25.

Moving on

From the Editor of The Sunday Telegraph

Sir, Your diarist is mistaken (July 26). It was not my idea that Mr Ian Hargreaves should stop his column for *The Sunday Telegraph*. When he became Editor of *The New Statesman* at the end of April, he told me he wanted to concentrate on rescuing that publication. We agreed that he would continue with his column until I could find a suitable replacement. That has now happened. In fact it happened four weeks ago. Congratulations on being first with the news.

Yours faithfully,
DOMINIC LAWSON, Editor,
The Sunday Telegraph,
1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, E14,
July 30.

Does the cap fit?

From Mr G. Greenslade

Sir, With reference to your story and photograph (July 26) of a recovered 4ft pet iguana resting on a police cap, I would be most interested to see a photograph of the cap owner's head (or perhaps the iguana's tail).

Yours sincerely,
G. GREENSLADE,
193 Whitechapel Road, E1,
July 26.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

Future of in-vitro fertilisation rules

From the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Glasgow, Cardinal Thomas Winning, and others

Sir, From August 1, NHS and private fertility units up and down the country will be required by statute to start disposing of some 3,000 embryonic human beings generated by in-vitro fertilisation who have spent five years in deep-freezers but whose parents, for one reason or another, can no longer be traced (reports and letter, July 25).

Moreover, since a proportion of the parents of the remaining 50,000 embryos currently frozen will also lose contact with the clinics concerned, the eventual total of human beings facing deliberate destruction is likely, in our view, to be considerably larger than 3,000.

Since this lamentable situation arises from the policy of allowing embryos to be created in far greater numbers than it is intended should implant immediately, we urge two things: first, that the body responsible for overseeing assisted conception programmes, the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority, forthwith requires that embryos no longer be created in greater numbers than are wanted for immediate implantation; secondly, that legislation be passed banning both the creation and freezing of excess embryos.

These measures, while not delivering us from our present dilemma, would spare us in the future the more conspicuously repugnant aspects of IVF programmes.

Yours truly,
PETER THOMAS J. CARD, WINNING
(Chairman, Catholic Bishops' Joint Committee on Bio-Ethical Issues),
MICHAEL BANNER
(King's College, London),
LUKE GORMALLY
(Linacre Centre),
JOHN HALDANE
(University of St Andrews),
OLIVER O'DONOVAN
(Christ Church, Oxford),
JOSEPHINE QUINTAVALLE
(Comment on Reproductive Ethics (CORE)),
c/o CORE,
PO Box 4593, London SW3 6XE,
July 30.

Cabbies' hours

From Mr Gerry Orme

Sir, As a professional driver and vehicle operator, I would be in serious trouble if, like the black-cab driver hired by South West Trains to take a stranded woman home from Waterloo (report, later editions, July 25), I had worked an eight-hour shift and then driven to Dundee.

Are black-cab drivers not subject to the same hours restrictions as other commercial drivers?

Yours etc,
GERRY ORME
(Director),
Transgo International,
14 South Street,
Ashby-de-la-Zouche, Leicestershire,
July 26.

Women 'kept out'?

From Mr H. G. Pitt

Sir, Your newspaper today (early editions) carries the headline: "Women kept out of professorships."

It is followed by a short statistical piece which reveals that, proportionate to their numbers in academic posts, women hold fewer professorships than men in universities (your correspondent does not say which universities the statistics cover: English, Scots or Welsh, or all of them).

Nothing in the article justifies your headline. There is no indication at all that women have been "kept out" of professorships.

Yours truly,
H. G. PITT,
Worcester College, Oxford,
26 July.

Sporting spirit

From Mrs John Prebble

Sir, It is, I suppose, too much to hope that the new sporting academies ("Major starts £100m race to give Britain a sporting chance", July 25) might start by teaching not sporting prowess but sportsmanship so that we might see an end to court cases, general sleaze, cheating, drugs and whingeing in the world of sport?

Yours sincerely,
JAN PREBBLE,
905 Nelson House,
Dolphin Square, SW1,
July 25.

Olympic coverage

From Professor Emeritus Herbert H. Huxley

Sir, "Odysseus, the first streaker in history" (Philip Howard, July 26).

Mr Howard, like Homer, has nodded. Far from flaunting his virility the shipwrecked Ithacan broke off a leafy branch to conceal his genitals (*Odyssey* VI, 128-9).

Yours sincerely,
H. H. HUXLEY,
12 Derwent Close,
Cambridge,
July 26.

OBITUARIES

ROGER TORY PETERSON

Roger Tory Peterson, American ornithologist, bird illustrator and author, died in Old Lyme, Connecticut, on July 28 aged 87. He was born in Jamestown, New York, on August 28, 1908.

ALTHOUGH on the other side of the Atlantic Roger Tory Peterson was known, understandably enough, for his books on the avian — and other — fauna of his native America, in Britain he is pre-eminently known for *A Field Guide to the Birds of Britain and Europe*. Making its first appearance in 1954 and going through five editions since that date, the *Field Guide* (known since 1992 as the *Collins Field Guide*) quickly established itself as the most influential single volume work on bird recognition to appear in the postwar period, and has occupied that position virtually unchallenged ever since.

Peterson was not in fact the *Field Guide's* "only begetter". The volume was the work of three men: Peterson, and the British ornithologists Guy Mountfort, Secretary of the British Ornithologists' Union, and P. A. D. Hollom, editor of *The Popular Handbook of British Birds*. To Mountfort fell the task of supplying the texts for each entry. These were marvels of economy which, in a few lines, gave a succinct account of the appearance, general habits and likely habitat of each species, coupled with highly imaginative versions of the vocal utterances of each (always the most difficult part of describing bird behaviour). Hollom dealt with the maps and notes on distribution which set a pattern and style that has been copied by all other field guides since. But it was Peterson's illustrations which were the distinctive feature of the work and gave it its popular impact. They did not attempt to create the drama or glamour inherent in the avian condition as rendered by illustrators as different as, say, Archibald Thorburn or Peter Scott. They were strictly illustrations which facilitated the identification of birds in the field. The marvel about them was that they included not everything of what was in a bird's plumage, but what, in a given set of circumstances, the watcher was likely to see.

They concentrated on the flying as well as on the perching, walking or swimming bird. Thus, the various species of soaring raptor were pictured from beneath, from where they were most likely to be viewed; lower flying duck were depicted from above, as well as swimming (as opposed, as so often in bird books, to dry land); marginal black and white sketches, scattered throughout the book, helped to differentiate at a glance between species that might actually look very similar as they flashed past the watcher. Wintering and immature birds were also amply covered. Using fine indicating lines, Peterson pointed out the salient features of silhouettes or colouring, without further intrusive comment. As bird recognition aids the illustrations to the *Field Guide* set standards which have never been surpassed.

At a time when there was a considerable spate of ornithological



Mountfort, Peterson and Hollom, from left, creators of *A Field Guide to the Birds of Britain and Europe*

publishing, and there scarcely seemed to be room for another interloper, the *Field Guide* made an immediate impact. It became the essential tool for several generations of birdwatchers. And while it could not have existed in the form it did without all of its three contributors, it somehow became associated with the name of its illustrator. Any group of young amateur ornithologists going out for a day on the mudflats, the marshes, in the woods or on fell or scree would anxiously inquire of at least one of their number: "Have you got your Peterson with you?"

Roger Tory Peterson was born in upstate New York of a Swedish father and a German mother. His interest in birds was aroused as a child when he poked at a bundle of feathers which he assumed were those of a dead bird. But, very much alive, the bird stretched and revealed to him the marvelous plumage of a flicker, a species of North American woodpecker. Such a transformation was a revelation to him, and left him imbued with a sense of the wonder of birdlife ever afterwards.

At school his seventh grade science teacher encouraged him to draw birds, urging on him the meticulous feel for detail he brought to his biological exercises. A blue jay was his first essay in this genre, and he never afterwards looked back. He studied art at the Student Arts League and the National Academy of Design between 1927 and 1931, going on to become an instructor in science and art at River School, Brookline, Massachusetts, from 1931 to 1934.

In the latter year he joined the

administrative staff of the National Audubon Society, of whose magazine he became art editor. From 1946 he was one of the society's tour lecturers and he also became editor of *Houghton-Mifflin's* field guide series.

But he had already begun illustrating bird books on his own account. His first book entitled *A Field Guide to the Birds* (actually of the Eastern United States) appeared in 1934 and was acknowledged as having set new standards in facilitating identification, highlighting as subsequent books of his did, distinctive markings and characteristics. It was followed by a stream of books including *Junior Book of Birds* (1939), *A Field Guide to Western Birds* (1941), *Birds Over America* (1943), *How to Know the Birds* (1949), *A Guide to the Birds of Texas* (1959), *Penguins* (1979) and many others. He also illustrated a host of works by other authors.

What had until then been a transatlantic career came to involve Britain and Europe when, in 1949, Peterson met Guy Mountfort on Hawk Mountain, Pennsylvania. They were among a group of ornithologists who were witnessing the annual migration of raptors — buzzards, eagles, falcons and hawks — soaring in the thermals over the Blue Ridge Mountains. The two men hit it off and were soon enthusiastically discussing a field guide to European birds along the lines of Peterson's extant American guides. When they learned that P. A. D. Hollom was also planning such a book, the three decided to

Over the next three years the trio travelled throughout Europe from Lapland to Sicily and from Ireland to the Bosphorus. The result therefore extended the notion of "British birds", sensibly arguing that the narrow seas separating Britain from the Continent were no real barrier either physically or conceptually. The European-ness of the book (bird names were given in French, German, Dutch and Swedish) also enabled the reader to know that the dreary fieldfare was in German, the more interesting Juniper Thrush (*Wacholderdrossel*) or that the Eider became in French, with commendable exactitude, the *Eider à duvet*.

The *Field Guide to the Birds of Britain and Europe* was immediately popular, and stayed so, although some regretted the separation of maps, text and illustrations in the later editions of the work. Translated into seven languages, it has sold more than two million copies to date. Peterson oversaw its most recent edition in 1993.

He received a host of honours from institutions all over the world and had more than a score of honorary doctorates and dozens of medals from learned societies. In 1980 he received the American Medal of Freedom from President Carter, the highest civilian honour in the US. Today the Roger Tory Peterson Institute of Natural History perpetuates his philosophy of respect for nature through education, sponsoring teacher workshops throughout the US and Mexico.

Roger Tory Peterson is survived by his wife Virginia, and by the two children of his first marriage.

ROBIN WHITWORTH

Robin Whitworth, BBC radio producer and television executive, died in Oxford on July 26 aged 95. He was born on March 3, 1911.



ROBIN WHITWORTH was one of British broadcasting's pioneers. He owed his start in the medium to his father, who was founder and secretary, and subsequently chairman, of the British Drama League. Geoffrey Whitworth also happened to be an acquaintance of Sir John Reith, the first Director-General of the BBC. The older Whitworth sat on the BBC's then influential education committee and, through that connection, was able to approach the "withering heights" of the early days of wireless with a view to getting him to see his son. This Reith duly did while the younger Whitworth was still in his second year at New College, Oxford, reading Modern History.

The founding father of British broadcasting advised him to complete his course and then to come back and see him, preferably with a first-class degree under his belt. Even with the first failing to materialise, Reith proved as good as his word. Robin Whitworth joined the BBC — with which he was to stay, with one interruption, for the next 38 years — as a trainee studio manager at an annual salary of £100 in 1932.

He was recruited to Val Gielgud's *Features and Drama* department, where his first "real job" (as he put it) was to look after the already aged but illustrious Henry Ainley in a wireless production of James Elroy Flecker's *Hassan*. He was to work with a succession of eminent producers — Lance Sieveking, E. J. King-Bull, Mary Hope Allen — but the one he always felt closest to was Archie Harding, to whom he was initially attached and with whom he willingly moved to Manchester, where the latter had been appointed Programme Director, in 1933.

Two years later Whitworth returned to London to work with Eustace Robb who, in a basement studio in Broadcasting House equipped with just one fixed camera, was taking the first faltering steps towards "the age of television". One by-product of this association was his participation in an ambitious religious radio programme put out on Christmas Day 1935 and entitled simply *Unto Us*. Devised by R. Ellis Roberts (the biographer of "Dick" Sheppard and one-time literary editor of the *New Statesman*) it won wide-

spread praise, and it was at the special request of the BBC Board of Governors that the same team was asked to put together a special tribute to George V on the eve of his funeral barely a month later.

It was on the morning after this moving and successful programme went out that Whitworth found himself summoned by the BBC's Head of Administration to be reprimanded for having left a used coffee cup in the basement concert hall of Broadcasting House — a tale he used to relate with a shudder for many years afterwards. Although educated at Eton, Robin Ayrmer Whitworth always prided himself on having something of the nonconformist in his make-up — a side of his nature that he certainly displayed on the outbreak of war. Then, despite the fact that he was now on the BBC's staff in Birmingham and would almost certainly have been classified as being in "a reserved occupation", he insisted on registering as a conscientious objector (he had been an active supporter of Dick Sheppard's and Vera Brittain's Peace Pledge Union in the 1930s).

He told the BBC that he would certainly not betray any secrets, would not allow his personal convictions to affect his professional work and offered to go on contributing to its output as long as he was needed; but this did not save him from having his contract abruptly terminated in 1941. He then joined the Friends' Ambulance Unit, working for some time as its publicity officer. He was reinstated to his

former job in Birmingham in 1946 — without, remarkably, losing any of the annual increments to his salary that would have fallen due to him had he never left. During the next seven years his work as features producer reflected the growing importance of regional broadcasting.

In 1953, however, he returned to London as organiser of the newly-created Documentary department within BBC Television under the then well-known film producer Paul Rotha. Despite his own success in initiating a film on the rebuilding of Coventry Cathedral, this proved something of a cul de sac. The new department never really jelled: within two years Rotha had been dismissed and his staff found themselves scattered to the four winds. Whitworth was fortunate in securing a berth within BBC TV as Women's Programmes Organiser for the next eight years. In 1963 he was seconded for a year as adviser to the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation but on his return had to settle for taking a job in the BBC Contracts Department, where he worked as Drama Booking Manager until his retirement in 1971.

Robin Whitworth spent his long retirement in Oxford, from where he viewed more recent developments within the BBC with a good deal of misgiving (he was an energetic backer of the activities of the pressure group, the Voice of the Listener and Viewer). He married in 1961 but he and his wife Cecily were amicably separated. She survives him, together with a daughter of the marriage.

ACHILLES PAPADOPOULOS

Achilles Papadopoulos, CMG, LVO, MBE, High Commissioner in the Bahamas, 1981-83, died on July 29 aged 72. He was born on August 16, 1923.

FEW diplomats can have followed a more rugged course within the Foreign and Com-

monwealth Office than did Achilles Papadopoulos. His name on its own probably saw to it he would be remembered. But even under any other identity he deserved to be commemorated for the amount of danger to which he frequently found himself exposed.

Achilles Simeon Papadopoulos was born in Cyprus and educated at the English School in Nicosia. He joined the Cyprus Service in 1943 and for the next 17 years served in Eritrea, London and Tanganyika as well as in Cyprus itself. British colonial service in

Cyprus in the period immediately preceding independence in 1960 was a tough enough test for any official; for one of Greek-Cypriot origins it was even more of an ordeal. Papadopoulos had to face the inflamed passions of his own fellow-countrymen, say nothing of the repeated threats

to his own safety made by the more murderous extremists. But he survived all this with a notable aplomb and resilience which won him widespread admiration from his colleagues.

In 1961 he was transferred to Malta for three years, after which he was accepted on permanent transfer into the Commonwealth Relations Office and posted to Kenya as director of British Information Services in Nairobi. Quick and helpful by nature, he made an exceptionally efficient information officer.

With the amalgamation of the Foreign and Commonwealth Offices in 1968, Papadopoulos spent the first three years of his career in the joint service working in Whitehall. But there followed three years in Colombo, one in Washington (as Counsellor, Information) and three in Havana. At last in 1977 he was given his first independent mission as Ambassador to El Salvador.

This proved, though, to be a very mixed blessing. Increasing violence was followed by a wave of kidnappings, and Papadopoulos was lucky to be on a postponed leave when the



release of two British bankers in July 1979 was immediately followed by renewed threats against the Embassy itself.

The members of the mainly local staff were sent on "a short holiday", and it was announced that the Ambassa-

dor himself was being "transferred".

His next posting to Mozambique, held out an all-too-similar prospect of personal danger and political violence; but when Robert Mugabe's clear victory in Zimbabwe in 1980 was accepted by the British Government — much, it has to be said, to the surprise of President Machel of Mozambique — things in Maputo quietened down, and Papadopoulos was able to enjoy what he may well have thought was his last post in relative tranquillity.

It turned out, however, not to be the end of his career. Since 1981, after a short period with the UK Mission to the UN, he was selected to be High Commissioner in the Bahamas. His two years in Nassau were probably the happiest of his professional life.

He had been appointed MBE in 1954, LVO in 1972 and CMG in 1980.

Achilles Papadopoulos married Joyce Stark, a hospital matron from Edinburgh who was serving in Cyprus in 1955. She survives him, together with one son and two daughters.

PERSONAL COLUMN

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THE KING'S CRUISE

The King, it was officially stated at Buckingham Palace yesterday, has chartered Lady Yule's yacht *Nahlin* for a holiday cruise. The cruise will be along the Dalmatian coast and in the Eastern Mediterranean. He will join the yacht probably at Dubrovnik (Ragusa), and will probably leave England tomorrow week.

An Equerry and private secretary will accompany him on his cruise so that the King can attend to State business while he is out of the country. It is understood that, in accordance with the usual custom, two destroyers will escort the yacht. The King will be away for about three or four weeks, and it is expected that he will land at various points along the coast during his cruise.

It is learned that the reason why the King is not using the Royal Yacht *Victoria and Albert* for his holiday is because of her size. Her navigation would be difficult in the shallow bays and inlets of the Dalmatian coast. It is understood that orders have been received for the *Nahlin* to be ready to leave Southampton tomorrow.

No Council of State will be appointed to act for the King during his absence. Official documents requiring the Royal sign manual will be sent out to the *Nahlin*.

ON THIS DAY

July 31, 1936

The cruise of the yacht *Nahlin* became a crucial, even sensational, event of the summer before the Abdication: the King and Mrs Simpson, who was one of the guests, were given an exuberant welcome wherever they went, according to the party the King invited to accompany him.

No detailed itinerary has yet been planned for the cruise, but, from day to day, the authorities in London will be kept informed of the King's future movements. The two guard destroyers will be in constant touch with the Admiralty by wireless, and the King will also be able to be in direct contact with London from the yacht. Papers will be sent to the King by King's Messengers and Government messengers to various points along his route.

The master of the *Nahlin* (Captain Doyle) visited St. James's Palace yesterday to discuss final arrangements for the cruise with officials of the King's staff. Later he returned to Southampton.

THE NAHLIN FUELLING AT SOUTHAMPTON PREPARATIONS FOR DEPARTURE FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

SOUTHAMPTON, July 30
The *Nahlin* is now lying off Southampton. There is great activity aboard and alongside the yacht. Early today a tanker arrived and began pumping 350 tons of oil for use during the cruise. The yacht has a fuel capacity of 400 tons, and consumes about 10 tons a day at cruising speed. Members of the crew were busy taking on stores from a motor-launch from the town quay to the yacht.

King Edward is no stranger to the *Nahlin*, for he was a guest on board last year when he paid a visit to the Channel Islands.

This morning stores were taken aboard for the crew, and there is now enough food on board to last until September. Provisions for the Royal Party will be embarked when the King himself joins the yacht.

The number of the *Nahlin* in Messrs. John Brown and Co.'s yard was 533, so that she was the ship constructed immediately before the Queen Mary.

The crew will include a full-time wireless operator. The vessel has a cruising range of 5,000 miles.

Expletives must be protected or their force will fade

The dark magic of the F-word

Poor old *Kaleidoscope*. The worthy Radio 4 afternoon arts programme had been rapped on the knuckles by the Broadcasting Standards Council as if it were *Chris Evans or The Girtle Show*. The reason? During a live discussion one of its contributors let slip the word that is top of the BSC's list as most offensive to the public.

The continuing power of this centuries-old monosyllable is gratifying. Its shock value has not disappeared, despite the fears of people such as Paul Johnson that the bourgeoisie has adopted the language of the lower classes. Yet the F-word still strikes many people with the crack of a rifle shot and, thanks to the solitude of politicians, there's plenty they can do about it.

Britain expends an impressive amount of money and energy on preserving the taboo on bad language. Those worried citizens battling to save the BBC World Service might well envy the resources given to this smaller grievance. All that their cascade of letters and petitions has achieved is the formation of a joint BBC-Foreign Office committee to study, but not to delay, the changes. But a single complaint from an offended viewer or listener will send one or other arm of a vast regulatory machine into high gear.

Last week, in its July complaints bulletin reprinting *Kaleidoscope*, the BSC refused to accept the programme's defence that the F-word had escaped under the pressure of a live broadcast. The council ruled that the "element of surprise would have added to the potential offence" as the complainant was listening with his children.

The same word brought a double ticking-off for Channel 4's *TFI Friday*, an early evening show with a large youthful following. The singer Shaun Ryder indulged in it twice. After the first occurrence on February 16 the presenter Chris Evans apologised. But then Ryder said it again in the course of performing a Sex Pistols lyric on March 22.

Now the BSC is not stocked with prudish, but with broadminded citizens such as Lady Howe and *The Times*'s Matthew Parris. They carry out the statutory obligations laid down by the Broadcasting Act of 1990. They do not ban the F-word outright. They upheld its use during the Channel 4 showing of *Peter's Friends* in February because it was on a minority channel after 9pm.

If further proof of verbal tolerance be needed, the BSC's June report dismisses complaints against "bollocks", "pissed", "bullshit" and "bugger off". It even forgets "shit" on *The Archers* on the ground that this word is not rated high on the BSC scale

of offensiveness, and also that it was used "in a moment of stress". The hardest cases that come before the eight-member BSC involve the Christian holy names — sacred syllables to believers, prosaic exclamations to the rest. But the council lays down one absolute: it sees no justification for the use of the F-word before the 9pm watershed.

For that, may one say "thank God"? My plea to the broadcasters is to carry on deleting. We need our explosive words. If this wickedest of expletives is not to fade to the faint force of "fudge", it must be fenced round and protected like any other endangered turf. Would *Four Weddings and a Funeral* have got off to its brilliant start without the opening string of "F"s uttered in the well-bred tones of Hugh Grant?

Newspapers hardly have an easier time with this word. There is still no consensus about its printability. *The Times* favours, as above, the "F" formula. Some other papers go the whole hog. None to my knowledge is as prim as the good grey *New York Times* — "100 Years Old Next Month — God Bless Her" — which does not permit even coded allusion. When I tried to convey an Emma Thompson quote for that paper, I was asked to delete it entirely and substitute the separate sentence "She used a barnyard expletive" instead.

Why does the word retain its dark magic? It's been around long enough. The *Oxford English Dictionary* gives the year 1503 as its first citation for this transitive verb for sexual connection. I would have guessed it was older. During Victorian times the word went underground and did not really surface until 1922, when James Joyce got a French printer to set it in type for *Ulysses*.

Onomatopoeia is obviously the key to its staying power. The suggestive quality of the sound extends even to its common euphemism "suck". The merry Elizabethans were well aware of this. Their style of script, with the elongated "s" looking like an "F", allowed them the happy ambiguity of such lines as "Where the bee sucks, there suck I".

To be fair, there is a noun which is probably more taboo. Yet it ranks second on the BSC's list of "serious" bad language, and will never make it to the top. There are two difficulties with the C-word. It is nowhere near as all-purpose as the F-word, being unconvertible into a verb or an adjective. It is also uninteresting as a term of derision to at least half the population.



BRENDA MADDOX

Moving up and onwards

SINCE leaving what could arguably be described as the least enviable job in Britain, Dominique Vulliamy, the former press secretary to the Duchess of York, has not been idling away her new-found leisure time.

The amiable Ms Vulliamy has been busy securing herself a job as producer of BBC's *Kilroy* and helpfully assisting *Guardian* journalists with their articles.

Currently, Ms Vulliamy can be found at Canary Wharf, where she has taken a temporary job as a junior features executive with the *Daily Mirror*, a newspaper no longer on the Duchess's Christmas card list.

It was the *Mirror* which printed the photographs of the Duchess receiving a pedicure from John Bryan, her financial advisor. The *Mirror* also got the exclusive that Ms



Ex-boss: Duchess of York Vulliamy had quit her job with the Duchess.

● **GOOD news for staff at** The Observer who are pining for their dearly departed editor, Andrew Jaspas.

Thanks to a new career break Jaspas, bundled out of his job in March after sitting in the editor's chair for a year and one week, will not be far away.

He is taking up the post of

managing editor and publisher of weekly magazine *The Big Issue*. Fortunately, the issue's offices in Clerkenwell Road, London, are less than spitting distance from The Observer's bunker for anyone who feels like buying him a welcome home drink.

Don't quote me

A LOT of huffing and puffing could be heard coming from Madeleine Pallas, LWT's no-nonsense press officer, this week. She was indignant about a "misleading" report in *The Sun* and the *Daily Mirror* which claimed that Jeremy Beadle's programme, *Beadle's About*, had been axed mid-series.

While extolling the virtues of the "high quality" prank show, Ms Pallas complained long and loud about scurrilous tabloid journalists whom she said "completely misrepresented the facts" and "make quotes up when they feel like it".

Strangely enough, Ms Pallas was, until recently, an established showbiz reporter on *The Sun* and the *Daily Star* and whose claim to fame



Victim? Jeremy Beadle

was a front-page splash in which she boasted "Gazza tried to chat me up".

Q'ing for a sniff

A NEW promotions gimmick has been causing consternation at high street newsagents.

Paco Rabanne is piloting a device — to promote its unisex fragrance, Paco — which will replace the sickly-smelling scent strips. The new system

called micro-encapsulation enables the perfume to be impregnated into the page but the smell is not released until the strip is rubbed across it.

An unfortunate by-product, however, is that customers who fancy a free dab of perfume while browsing in Menzies are being observed furiously rubbing their wrists across Q magazine. "From a distance, especially from the rear, it can look quite obscene," says one sales assistant.

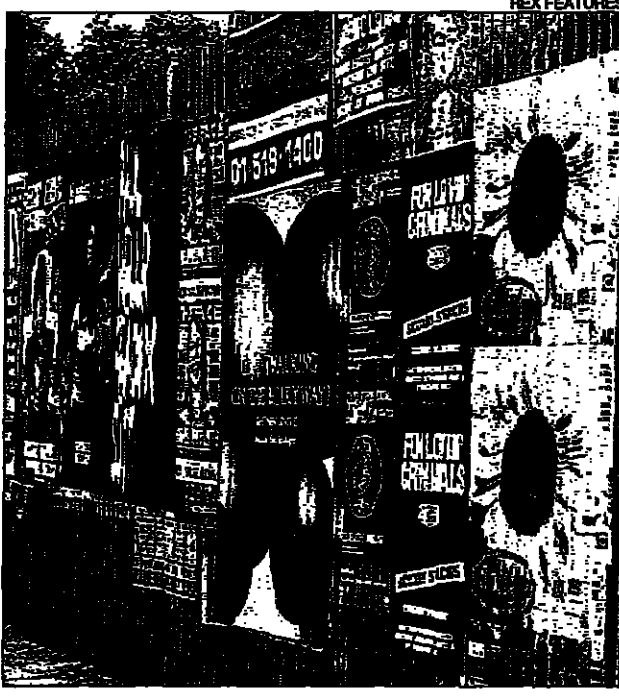
Careful Chris

COULD the Scottish air be getting to Chris Evans, presenter of Radio 1's *Breakfast Show*, who, for the past few days, has been broadcasting the show from Inverness.

Listeners have been treated to hearing Evans, one of Britain's highest paid entertainers, rant on about his staff's salaries and moan obsessively about paying for a plate of sandwiches in his hotel.

He also admitted that after filling up his hire car with petrol this week, he was so loathe to give it back with a half full tank that he "drove round in circles 17 times in first gear".

Taking death with a pinch of salt



Views on illegal flyposting are divided: wall art or eyesore

AVOID death, religion and bad language in your press and poster advertising if you do not want to offend the nation, says the Advertising Standards Authority in a hefty study published this week.

The independent research was commissioned in response to the increase in complaints about taste and decency in print ads. Last year's beefs filed with the ASA were up 33 per cent on 1994, while gripes are up a further 25 per cent so far this year.

Advertisers should also eschew using images of women as sex objects and bear in mind a developing sensitivity among men, with 15 per cent raising objections to the similar misuse of males.

Some findings were heartening. Almost 75 per cent say they are "entertained or amused" by press and poster ads, while 63 per cent even believe they are "educational and informative".

ADVERTISING

But lurking among the data is one specific statistic which agencies might wish to cover up pretty smartish. Seventy per cent of those polled said that all advertising should be "taken with a pinch of salt".

SEVERAL players within the outdoor advertising industry are trying to drum up support to get flyposting legalised, motivated by research which suggests the industry loses £35 million in revenue each year because of illegal sites.

The move, however, is not being universally supported. Francis Goodwin, managing editor of *Maiden Outdoor* and a key industry figure, plans to fight it all the way. He feels strongly that trespassing cannot and should not be legalised adding that it is naive to assume that the £2.25 billion spent by advertis-

ers each year on pasting flyposters would necessarily cross over into far more expensive, legitimate sites.

"If flyposting were legalised it would be a bit like getting your mum to organise a rave," he observed.

ADVERTISING folk, being of a creative bent, like to invent new vocabulary. Over recent weeks they have coined such mystifying terms as "tissue meetings", "paradigm shifting" to impress clients and baffle rival agencies.

But now Howell Henry Chaldecott Lury, renowned for eschewing official job titles, is introducing a key term of his own. Its joint creative chief, Steve Henry, from now on wishes to be called "coach" rather than "creative partner". That's coach as in tutor, rather than National Express.

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The sounds of success

From ice-cream to fizzy drinks and motor cars, the compilation album has become the latest weapon in the advertiser's armoury, reports Carol Midgley

With Euro 96 now a fond but distant memory, negotiations are already under way to secure one of the most coveted sponsorship projects of World Cup 98. The discussions centre not on football players' strips, which razors they use, or who owns television rights, but on another area of sponsorship which is now becoming almost as lucrative — the theme music.

Consider the fact that virtually every man, woman and child who watched Euro 96 has heard the English anthem *Three Lions*, and it is obvious that, these days, if you want to get a message across, the way to the nation's heart is through its Sony Walkman.

Coca-Cola pulled off a masterstroke by bagging for itself the sponsorship of the official Euro 96 album *The Beautiful Game*, which immediately sprinted to the top ten in the compilation charts and, for a few weeks at least, became the bible of the young and streetwise.

But the growth of music as the new advertising medium is not confined simply to sport. Almost as though it has crept up on us when we were not looking, music has established itself as the most effective way to attach a "feel-good" factor to a product.

You may not have noticed, but a compilation CD, *Summer Vibes*, which recently streaked up the charts, came to you courtesy of Polygram and the orange drink, Sunkist.

Frustrated perhaps by its rival Tungs's stronghold on the teenage market, Sunkist decided it wanted to appeal to a younger clientele. The company wanted to capitalise on the summer weather to launch its new, fresher image and in June launched a double CD crammed with 40 "feel-good" tracks ranging from *Summer-time*, by DJ Jazzy Jeff and the Fresh Prince, to *Too Hot*, by Coolio. The arrangement suited Polygram, who wanted to sell to the same market.

The result? An instant hit, which meant that thousands of teenagers suddenly had a CD cover bearing Sunkist's logo (a smiling orange sun) on their bedroom shelves. Not only that, but 13 million cans of the drink also offered the chance to win a three-track sampler.

The opportunities to increase brand penetration in the music market are great: compilation albums make up 30 per cent of the record market. But because the concept is so new, research has yet to be done to determine how much the brand's name penetrates the consciousness of the purchaser.

Some of the advertising is so subtle that it is almost subliminal. The front cover of the *Unfaced* compilation



The sound of Häagen-Dazs: the ice-cream company's double CD was aimed at 18 to 35-year-olds and reached silver status in the charts

CD, for example, launched last year by Doc Martens footwear, simply depicts part of an unlaced boot and the names of the Britpop bands — Blur, Suede, Pulp — featured. Only the most meticulous would spot the tiny Doc Martens logo in the bottom left-hand corner on the back.

"You have to respect your audience — that is the golden rule," says Rick Blaskey, the man who masterminded the projects. "With *Unfaced*, the audience were young, streetwise, student types who have a cynicism about advertising that is too in-your-face."

Blaskey, a former record company and advertising executive, has created and virtually cornered the market with his London-based company Music & Media Partnership, which acts as a marriage broker between the brand and record managers.

With the company motto "Music hath charms to soothe the savage breast, to soften rocks or bend a

knotted oak", he has organised a string of successful "marriages". Blaskey reasoned that since people could still remember the "I'd like to teach the world to sing" advert for Coca-Cola from the 1970s, the power of music as an advertising device was awesome.

"Frankly, I'm amazed it hasn't been done before," he says. "Music can lift people and touch their souls like almost nothing else. Songs stay with people for life; they are the perfect marketing device."

"By combining music with brands, the brand is given an opportunity to reach its target audience — but in an environment it could never normally reach."

Häagen-Dazs jumped onto the bandwagon, launching a double CD with EMI full of smoochy love songs to complement the sheer-indulgence image of the ice-cream. It was aimed at 18 to 35-year-old ABC1s. The cover featured a photograph of two semi-

naked lovers spooning Häagen-Dazs into each others' mouths. It worked. The album reached silver status in the charts (sales of 60,000-plus). Häagen-Dazs says the sponsored CD fitted in with the company's offbeat image and was "a way of challenging our consumers to think of ice-cream in a different way".

For some music purists, the idea of creating an album to push a commercial product is anathema. One record company executive says: "We consider it all a bit naïf. To be credible with music, you have got to stay a bit rebellious. It doesn't work to treat music too commercially."

The most successful sponsored album to date is this year's *True Brit*, with Polygram and the Rover Mini. Rover's predicament was that the Mini had a nostalgic image in Britain, while they wanted to draw in a young market. A collection of

Britpop songs was compiled and the album shot to number seven.

Fiona Beeching, the head of sales and marketing for Polygram, says: "We have done five sponsored albums so far, all of which have reached the charts. But the concept is still at a fledgling stage and we are very selective about which brands we work with."

"There is enormous scope for development and it is a great device to enable both partners to reach a target audience in new outlets. But the partnership has to be absolutely right. If it is not done properly it could be disastrous for all concerned."

Blaskey, meanwhile, is also in earnest discussions about the music for the Rugby World Cup in 1999. "Because it is being held in Wales, we are looking at using Welsh choir music updated for the 1990s," he says. "It will be very evocative — one to watch out for."

When political poachers turn gamekeepers

Journalists are in demand as party spin doctors, says Simon Brooke

TOMORROW morning the Tories' new chief broadcasting officer begins work at Central Office. Anthony Gordon-Lennox will be charged with liaising between the party and the broadcast media: fielding ministers for interview, attempting to make sure that the Tory message gets across on TV and radio, and arguing with journalists and their editors when he or his seniors feel it hasn't. It is a tough job, I should know. I used to do it.

Mr Gordon-Lennox, however, has one qualification that I did not until recently he was a working journalist — on the BBC's *Question Time* and more recently *The Midnight Hour*.

The trend for poacher to turn gamekeeper among Westminster journalists is growing. Over the past few years all three main parties have appointed a number of journalists, from the lobby and beyond, as spin doctors. Among the most senior are Charles Lewington, the Tories' communications director, who was formerly political editor of the *Sunday Express*, and Alastair Campbell, of *Today* and the *Daily Mirror*, who is his opposite number at Walworth Road.

Meanwhile, Jane Bonham-Carter, editor of Channel 4's *A Week in Politics*, was appointed the Liberal Democrat's

work with MPs he had "dusted up" in interviews.

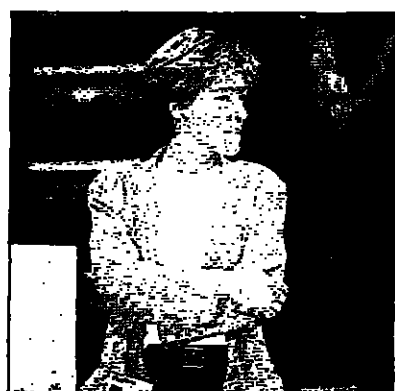
A press officer with a journalistic background may well feel a natural empathy for the correspondents he or she deals with. But if, as is usually the case, those correspondents are former colleagues, relations can be strained. Mr Holden remembers a nasty moment while he was clarifying the party's position to a journalist after a difficult press conference. "Suddenly a light came on me from a passing camera crew and the next thing there were two more because they thought it was a row. I found myself at the centre of this wolf pack. I remember thinking 'Come on guys, this is me.'"

Working journalists can also see the advantages in party press officers having journalistic experience. "It's a huge advantage," says *The Times* political editor, Philip Webster, whose former colleague Sheila Gunn is now at the Tory press office. "They know our requirements and you don't tend to get quite as much rubbish from them. They will be trying to provide something they think has a better chance of making the paper, not just whatever the politicians think will be news."

In the last few years those who have crossed this journalistic Rubicon have discov-



Campbell: Tony Blair's adviser



Johnson: unhappy time at Labour



Lewington: coup for the Tories

I have seen the future, and it lurks in a laptop

Stuck in the mountains of Andalusia, newspaper junkies can quickly start to feel deprived of their daily fix. So two weeks ago, on the Costa del Sol, we all seized hungrily on that morning's *Daily Mail* and *Daily Express* when we went to lunch by the sea — and our host was expecting *The Times* that afternoon.

With satellite printing, most British national newspapers are now on sale on the Continent on the day of publication. More than 100,000 copies of *The Sun*, *Daily Mirror*, *Daily Mail* and *Daily Express* are printed in Spain every day to catch the summer influx of British holidaymakers.

There is already, however, an even easier method of getting the junkie's daily fix. With a laptop computer and access to the Internet, you can read *The Times*, *The Daily Telegraph* or the *Financial Times* anywhere in the world — often before the British have even woken up. All are now published daily on the Internet and their success is surprising all but the most devoted Internet fanatics. A British surfer can also read the *Irish Times*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Boston Globe* or many other distinguished newspapers.

The Internet pioneer in Britain was *The Daily Telegraph*, which now has 310,000 registered readers of *ET*, the *Electronic Telegraph*. Across the world, seven million Internet readers are now registered with papers owned by its parent company Hollinger. The Internet edition of *The Times*, which was launched only in January, has 280,000. Up to half live overseas and, for *The Times*, about one in four in the United States. Their main interests are sport and news.

Internet newspapers are still in their infancy and so far there are several different strategies. The Internet *Times* publishes a complete replica of *The Times*, apart from city prices and race cards. Readers can also order their own personal Internet *Times* by nominating what they want to read.

ET is an edited version of the *Telegraph* which concentrates on news and sport and which often leads on a differ-



PAPER ROUND Brian MacArthur

ent news story, usually catering to its significant international readership. It is adding a Saturday edition in August and starting to publish seven days a week in September.

The *ET* adopts a similar approach, offering a selection of articles from the main paper as well as material prepared specially for the Internet by a team of dedicated journalists. So far, *The Guardian* has decided against going online on a daily basis and opted for developing special Web sites reflecting its readers' interests and preoccupations. It has Go2, a "webzine" for science and technology, and sites on such subjects as the Scott

Report or a register of MPs' interests. Its Euro 96 Web site, developed with Vauxhall and Lowe, Howard-Spink, got 500,000 "hits" a day and was one of the 100 hottest Web sites in the world.

One of the buzzwords when you surf the Net is interactivity. Angry, delighted or perplexed readers can send e-mail to Internet papers instantly — and both the Internet *Times* and *Electronic Telegraph* get up to 100 e-mails a day. "They make us feel much closer to our readers," says Derek Bishton, the Editor of *ET*. "Our Internet readers don't have to stand on ceremony and we sense more honest responses."

Classified advertising is also proving popular. Seeking to buy a car or a holiday, you can click on Ford or BMW or Spain or France and go instantly to their ads. At Condé Nast, where *GQ*, *Vogue*, *Tatler* and *World of Interiors* have been on the Net since last November, advertising is developing into an Internet art-form.

Under a deal with Rover, *GQ* readers can study a car on screen, select colour schemes and e-mail Rover for a brochure — or move their mouse to any item of men's fashion and click for merchandising and a list of stockists. *Tatler* on the Internet offers a guide to 350 restaurants: readers tap in their request for a £30 dinner in a south London or Mayfair French restaurant and up comes a selection of recommendations. There are now 160,000 regular users and about 60,000 hits a month.

The *Times Higher Education Supplement*, which sells 27,000 copies a week, put its job ads on the Net in January last year and Internet users — many of them academics working overseas — can study the ads before the main paper is printed. On peak days they get 1,500 hits.

As an old-fashioned newspaperman, I doubt that I shall ever feel at home on the Internet. It is the under-30s who find it easy to surf the Net — and as sales of printed newspapers gently decline it is to their generation that newspapers must appeal if they are to develop and survive in the next millennium.

None of the editors of Internet papers believe they are presiding over the death of the traditional newspaper — but they do believe that they are giving them the breath of life for new generations.

Going on the Net offers readers the opportunity to test papers they would not otherwise buy. Internet papers and e-mail offer editors an umbilical relationship with readers; they can be parochial, regional, national or international and they are amazingly cheap to launch. Above all, by going on the Net, every editor speaks to a global audience. I have seen the future and it smirks.

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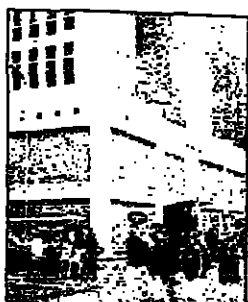
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BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

WEDNESDAY JULY 31 1996

Group profits drop to £302 million for first half of year

NatWest to close 300 branches



Wanless: opportunities

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

ALMOST 300 NatWest Bank branches are to close over the next four years, with the potential loss of 10,000 jobs — almost a quarter of the present workforce.

The bank said that new technology, the public's enthusiasm for "hole-in-the-wall" cash machines, and competition was forcing it to reduce its branch network to 1,750 by the year 2000, compared with 2,046 branches at present and nearly 2,770 four years ago.

Service centres dealing with back-office administration, will be cut from 150 to 50.

The cost of restructuring and redundancy payments contributed towards a dramatic

drop in group profits from £872 million to £302 million for the first half of the year.

The disappointing result sent shares tumbling 12p to 616p in spite of the group's announcement that it was spending £450 million buying back its own shares. NatWest said that it had bought back 72 million shares at 625p per share, equivalent to just over 4 per cent of its issued share capital.

The figures included a £224 million gain on the sale of the bank's interest in 3i, the venture capital company, and a £690 million loss on the disposal of Bancorp, its US retail and commercial banking operation in May this year.

Lord Alexander of Weedon,

NatWest chairman, refused to say how many jobs would go, but 8ifu, the banking, insurance and finance union, estimated that the figure could be as high as 10,000. At present, NatWest employs 45,000 people, down from 67,000 in 1990.

Restructuring cost NatWest UK, the retail arm, £675 million in the first half (£760 million), leaving a total pre-tax profit of £248 million (£330 million).

Richard Goeltz, group chief financial officer, gave a warning that costs could continue and that although NatWest Group intended to reduce cost-income ratios to 63 per cent over five years, there would "not be a smooth downward curve". Analysts said that this

put NatWest at a disadvantage to some of its high street rivals, particularly Barclays, which is already well on the way on its restructuring programme and has a tighter control of costs.

NatWest Group comprises NatWest UK, Lombard, the loans division, Ulster, NatWest Markets, and Courts, the private bank. The loss attributable to ordinary shareholders was £111 million, compared with a profit of £585 million for the same period in 1995.

This led to a loss per share of 6.3p, compared with earnings per share of 33.8p for the comparable six months of 1995. However, the interim dividend has been raised from

8.4p to 9.6p. Although analysts welcomed the share buyback, they said that NatWest would probably have preferred to spend the money on making an acquisition.

Derek Wanless, group chief executive, said that the bank wanted to expand to take up opportunities in the long-term savings market, but had "not found a candidate that fits all our criteria".

NatWest's bad debt charge was £45 million higher at £270 million, which, Mr Wanless said, was partly down to problems with customers at Lombard who were not repaying loans.

Bifu gave a warning that the standard of service to customers would fall as staff worked

longer hours. "New technology should be freeing up staff to give better service, but instead they are facing ever greater pressure," a spokeswoman said.

"The branch closure programme leaves rural communities in the lurch and forces customers into using cash machines and telephone banking which they may not want to do. We would like NatWest to consult local people first."

Mr Wanless said that the decision to close a branch was taken by local managers. More than 125,000 jobs and 2,500 branches have been lost in the industry as a whole since 1990.

Pennington, page 25

Whitbread picks up Pelican for £133m

BY PAUL DURMAN

WHITBREAD is continuing its push into the restaurant and leisure markets with the £133.1 million acquisition of Pelican Group, owner of the Café Rouge and Dôme chains of French style restaurants and café/bars.

Café Rouge is well known in many of the more fashionable parts of London, but has opened up only recently in other major cities. Whitbread intends to add up to 100 more to the existing chain of 66.

Whitbread's offer of 170p a share — 17 per cent higher than Pelican's share price

before the announcement — values the shares and options owned by Roger Myers, Pelican's founder and chairman, at about £3.15 million. His co-founder, Karen Jones, who will remain managing director, will make about £2.7 million from her stake.

The deal will also produce a £13.3 million windfall for Robert Earl, the Hard Rock Café founder, who sold Pelican four of his restaurants in 1993.

Mr Myers will stand down as chairman, but will continue as a director of Pelican, developing new restaurant concepts. Pelican also an Italian chain called Mamma Amalfi and is experimenting with Dragon Inns (Thai restaurants set in traditional pubs), an Italian version of Café Rouge called Pellicano and others. Altogether, Pelican has 103 trading restaurants and 23 more in the pipeline.

Peter Jarvis, Whitbread chief executive, said the acquisition was in keeping with the group's aim to be the best retailer in drinks and eating-out. The £21 billion eating out market is forecast to grow 41 per cent over the next five years.

David Thomas, managing director of Whitbread's restaurants and leisure business, said Café Rouge was the clear brand leader in a new urban market serving young ABC1 customers who no longer needed a special occasion to go out to eat. Pelican recently announced annual pre-tax profits of £7.5 million, or about £100,000 for each of the restaurants trading during the year. Mr Thomas said this was 25 per cent better than Whitbread's managed pubs.

Some analysts expressed concern at the price Whitbread is paying, which will require a £100 million write-off of goodwill.

Tempos, page 26



Roger Myers, founder and chairman of Pelican, and Karen Jones, the co-founder and managing director, at a Café Rouge restaurant

Think-tank warns Clarke against cuts

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

KENNETH CLARKE, the Chancellor, is given a warning today against cutting interest rates or taxes if he means to hit his inflation target.

In its latest economic outlook published today, the National Institute of Economic and Social Research says that there is a more than 40 per cent chance that the Government will fail to deliver inflation of 2.5 per cent or less.

This suggests that far from adding further to demand in the economy, a government which takes its inflation target seriously should be seeking to restrain it, the institute says.

The warning comes the day after Mr Clarke met Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, for their monthly monetary meeting. The meeting lasted for only 35 minutes and the Bank dealt at unchanged rates in the money

market. Since the Bank normally signals any change to the markets at the first possible opportunity, the City is assuming that rates have been left unchanged.

In spite of the fact that the institute, headed by Martin Weale, one of the Chancellor's

panel of independent forecasters, argues against cuts in either rates or taxes, it believes that the Chancellor will do both. In its economic forecasts it is assuming one pence off the basic rate of income tax and another 1/4 point off interest rates.

Referring to the latter, the institute says: "To make such a cut would be to ignore the build-up of expansionary pressure, which the Treasury has identified and with which we concur." The only justification for lower rates would be if they were accompanied by a sharp

tightening of fiscal policy. The institute says that the income tax cut, which it expects in November, is likely to be accompanied by promises of a cut in public spending, but it doubts that this could be achieved. It gave a warning that scepticism about further cuts in public spending could provoke unfavourable market comment, and that this "may reduce any political benefit to be gained by such a Budget".

The institute forecasts that growth will total 2.1 per cent this year, accelerating sharply to 3.4 per cent in 1997. This compares with the Treasury's most recent forecasts of 2.5 per cent and 3.25 per cent.

But it is more pessimistic on inflation, predicting that underlying inflation will be 2.7 per cent by the end of next year, compared with the Treasury's forecast of 2.25 per cent.

unchanged after the losses it suffered on Monday. American labour costs rose by 0.8 per cent in the second quarter, compared with market expectations of a 0.9 per cent increase. Sales of new homes dropped by 5.3 per cent in June, suggesting that higher mortgage rates are beginning to take their toll. Home sales were also revised down from March to May.

The FT-SE 100 index recovered some of the session's losses, but it still closed down 10.3 points, at 3,668.5. In early afternoon trading on Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average was roughly

undiminished again by a surge in American consumer confidence during July. Trading is likely to remain nervous until Friday's key US employment report.

Shares depressed by US jitters

Shares depressed by US jitters

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3682.5	(-10.3)
Yield	4.18%	
FT-SE All share	1822.11	(-4.68)
Nickel	2080.25	(-57.2)
New York		
Dow Jones	5431.26	(-3.33)
S&P Composite	588.88	(-0.23)

US RATE

Federal Funds	5 1/4%	(5 1/4%)
Long Bond	8 1/4%	(8 1/4%)
Yield	7.04%	(7.10%)

LONDON MONEY

3-month Interbank	5 1/4%	(5 1/4%)
Life long bill		
Future (Sep)	106 1/4	(106 1/4)

STERLING

New York	1.5561*	(1.5585)
London		
\$	1.5564	(1.5580)
DM	2.2592	(2.3070)
FF	7.8020	(7.8233)
Sfr	1.6721	(1.6807)
Yen	167.95	(168.62)
£ Index	84.9	(85.1)

DOLLAR

London		
DM	1.4768*	(1.4803)
FF	5.0200*	(5.0210)
Sfr	1.2040*	(1.2045)
Yen	168.05*	(168.15)
\$ Index	86.0	(86.1)
Tokyo close Yen	167.97	

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Oct)	\$18.45	(\$18.55)
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SOYABEANS

London close	\$94.75	(\$94.35)
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* denotes midday trading price

Midland Main Line deal sent to MMC

BY JONATHAN PRYNN
TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

NATIONAL EXPRESS'S winning bid for the Midland Main Line InterCity rail franchise was yesterday referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission after the company refused demands to promote rival coach services.

Ian Lang, the President of the Board of Trade, said that the terms of the coach group's ten-year franchise "raises competition concerns in the market for the supply of coach and rail services" between London and the Midlands.

The decision came as National Express rejected Mr Lang's request to use its "best endeavours" to allow other operators to start coach services on its routes between London and five Midlands cities.

Mr Lang said: "The company have indicated that they are not prepared to give the undertakings which I was seeking." Instead, National Express had offered to limit fare increases to the inflation rate and maintain existing service levels on the relevant coach routes and to restrict advance purchase rail fare increases.

National Express said it could not agree to promoting rivals without guarantees that they would provide an equal level of quality and safety.

Michael Davies, chairman, said: "We are naturally disappointed at the decision. We are convinced that the undertakings sought would not be in the best interests of the travelling public."

□ NatWest's cuts pay off for shareholders □ Costing the oldest profession □ BA's friends and enemies

Sawing off yet more branches

IT IS the classic 1990s double-bind. You hand out millions to shareholders because there is nothing else to do with the proceeds of earlier cost-cutting. At the same time you announce another round of sackings and closures to create the next lot of cost savings. The utilities have it down to a fine art, and yesterday the NatWest Group followed their lead.

This is, of course, deeply unfair because there is little reason why the bank and its rivals should be required to keep open branches that are no longer needed. But the alternative is hostile headlines about mass sackings, outrage from the union and a general sense among the nervous middle classes that they, as white collar staff, are getting the sort of treatment that should by rights be restricted to coalminers and factory workers.

NatWest handed £450 million back to its shareholders because it had not done so, the equivalent cash would only have piled up in its coffers before it could be spent. The bank still wants a life insurer, to add the last ingredient to the mix already assembled with the purchase of Gartmore and a couple of New York businesses. But even if a clear candidate emerges, the necessary demutualisation will take 18 months to complete.

NatWest's tier one capital ra-

tio, the City's measure of a bank's financial health and the mix between shareholders funds and assets weighted according to the risks they carry, stood at 7.6 per cent in June. By contrast the Bank of Scotland managed to float last week on about half this. Throw in the share repurchase and other negatives and the NatWest ratio drops to perhaps 6.7 per cent. But in the time a life insurance deal would take, the normal course of business will push that ratio back again to where it was in June.

A profitable business, banking, and even more profitable without so many local branches. Consider this: the average small country town contains one, at most two, of the Big Four. Neither much wants to be there, and if you hold the wrong debit card, you are one of the great unbanked in that town anyway. Technological change and telephone banking means that the only reason to keep many branches open is to service the small business market, which offers lousy margins in any case.

Next year four or more building societies arrive, adding even

more competition for retail customers. The most logical option to cut costs further is for the banks to pool their cash dispenser networks so just one high street hole in the wall serves all. But this they have shown themselves unwilling to do.

In 1992 Lloyds was not allowed to take over the Midland because of competition worries in the smaller business market. Three years later Lloyds was allowed to buy the TSB because their respective shares raised no such concerns. So the other option is further bank takeovers. The evidence suggests these may eventually have to be allowed.

The business of bordellos

IT IS the year 1998, and a liberal-minded Labour government has been in power for more than 15 months. The debate about the legalisation of prostitution, sparked into life again by a couple of senior police officers two years ago, is over.

Who will run this newly legalised, highly regulated and



highly cash-generative industry? Forget the Government — this is the 1990s, and the wind is in the other direction. An upmarket chain of houses, carefully located to avoid competing with each other, is the ideal add-on to one of the diversified combines evolving out of the traditional brewing and leisure industries.

The management skills involved in running a chain of hotels, discotheques, pubs or theme restaurants are no different from those needed for bordellos. You will have to deal with the rowdy element as the pubs turn out. There are economies of scale in terms of buying in drinks, laundry and other catering. But the industry is also peculiarly suited to en-

trepreneurs. Start small, add on a few houses, whether new openings or acquisitions, and hope to sell out to one of those leisure combines in due course.

Whitbread, for example, bought the once-tiny Café Rouge chain yesterday and David Lloyd's tennis clubs last year. Our hypothetical entrepreneur has built a business with the same intangible assets — brand loyalty, properties operating with the necessary planning consent and potential for expansion of the brand. He or she can expect the same high exit-multiple.

There are just two peculiarities. The staff will need highly unusual pension arrangements, to cater for early retirement — probably one of those increasingly popular money purchase schemes providing a pot of cash at a given date rather than a final salary scheme.

Second, though there are already legalised brothels quoted in Nevada and Australia, many will still find much of the above deeply offensive. Apologies; this column is adopting no moral stance. But quoted brothels must expect to join tobacco, drinks and

defence on any list of unethical investments — as must any leisure group prepared to add them to its portfolio.

Wolf on the fold

THE courts see nothing more furious than an airline scorned. After Richard Branson, British Airways faces Stephen Wolf, whose formidable performance as rival to United Airlines made him a great catch to run BA's ailing associate USAir. Mr Wolf is not the sort to be content to be BA's number two wife in America, a seemingly inevitable role given the immensely superior weight of American Airlines.

BA still has plenty of friends, not least on the Commons Transport Select Committee, which is not one to take a narrow pedantic view of the national interest. But it has formidable enemies too, in a European Commission that still tends to be politically dominated by francophone protectionist interests, whatever its officials might prefer. Air France hates the American deal and the

commission is, perhaps not coincidentally, now to look at BA's plan to take full control of its small French associate.

The last thing BA needs, therefore, is a powerful enemy within its own camp. It is doubtful that USAir wants to wreck the American Airlines link, but it has a useful lever to secure something for itself and outside shareholders. This could involve a divorce from BA in favour of a more ardent alliance or gaining a closer link with American itself. BA cannot afford to palm Mr Wolf off with lawyers.

Miracle cure

SPENDING on disability benefit in Britain has trebled over the past six years to £9 billion. Mad cow disease notwithstanding, there is no problem with the nation's health; instead, more rigorous checks are moving claimants on to the sick list, courtesy of harassed or sympathetic doctors. By contrast, police in Naples started a crackdown three years ago on benefits fraud. Since then, the number of people claiming to be permanently ill has fallen by three quarters. In an appropriate echo of the New Testament, Rome's *Il Messaggero* newspaper headlined its report with a sardonic "Miracle at Naples: the disabled have been cured."

AIB picks Quinn as chairman

Allied Irish Banks, Ireland's biggest bank, has appointed Lochlainn Quinn, brother of Ruairi Quinn, the Finance Minister, as chairman. He succeeds Jim Culliton, who is retiring after three years for personal reasons.

Director ban

Stephen Less, a company director based in Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, has been barred from serving as a director for nine years. The disqualification order was made in respect of Capital Leisure Management and 14 other companies. Creditors were owed more than £3 million.

Profits dip

Mid-States, the automotive products supplier, saw pre-tax profits slip to £2.36 million (£2.44 million) in the six months to June 30. Earnings per share were 3p (3.2p), and there is an interim dividend of 0.24p (nil) a share.

Fairway up

Fairway Group lifted pre-tax profits to £1.8 million (£1.7 million) in the six months to June 30. Earnings per share were 3.42p (3.62p). There is an interim dividend of 1.40p (1.30p).

Ventura deal

Ventura, the Leeds-based customer service management company, has won a £5 million contract to handle customer calls for BT Mobile's Paging Business, creating 120 jobs.

Strong debut

Network Technology, the Sussex-based software group, saw its shares climb to a 9p premium in its first day on AIM. Network's software package, PeriphraVision, is expected to boost sales by £20 million this year.

Remy forced to revise down profits by Fr130m

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

REMY-COINTREAU, the French drinks company, yesterday revealed that it had been forced to revise down its full-year profits by Fr130 million.

The revision was made after the company sought advice from French regulatory authorities over the balance-sheet valuation of the sale of its 26 per cent stake in Macallan-Glenlivet, the UK whisky company.

Remy, which was announcing its final results after a two-week delay, said that full-year profits fell 56 per cent to Fr120 million after the adjustment.

The company sold its 26 per cent stake in Macallan to Highland Distillers for £47 million earlier this year, although it still distributes many of Macallan's brands. Highland, which owns 17 per cent of Remy, recently took control of Macallan after an £180 million bid.

Remy, which issued a profit warning earlier this year, blamed the poor results on price rises hitting cognac sales. But sales of other products, especially of champagne and whisky, have improved.

Total group sales rose 1.2 per cent to Fr7,023 billion, equivalent to growth of 5.2 per cent at constant exchange rates.

Remy-Martin cognac sales fell 8 per cent, which analysts estimate would have resulted in a 40 per cent fall in profits from the cognac division.

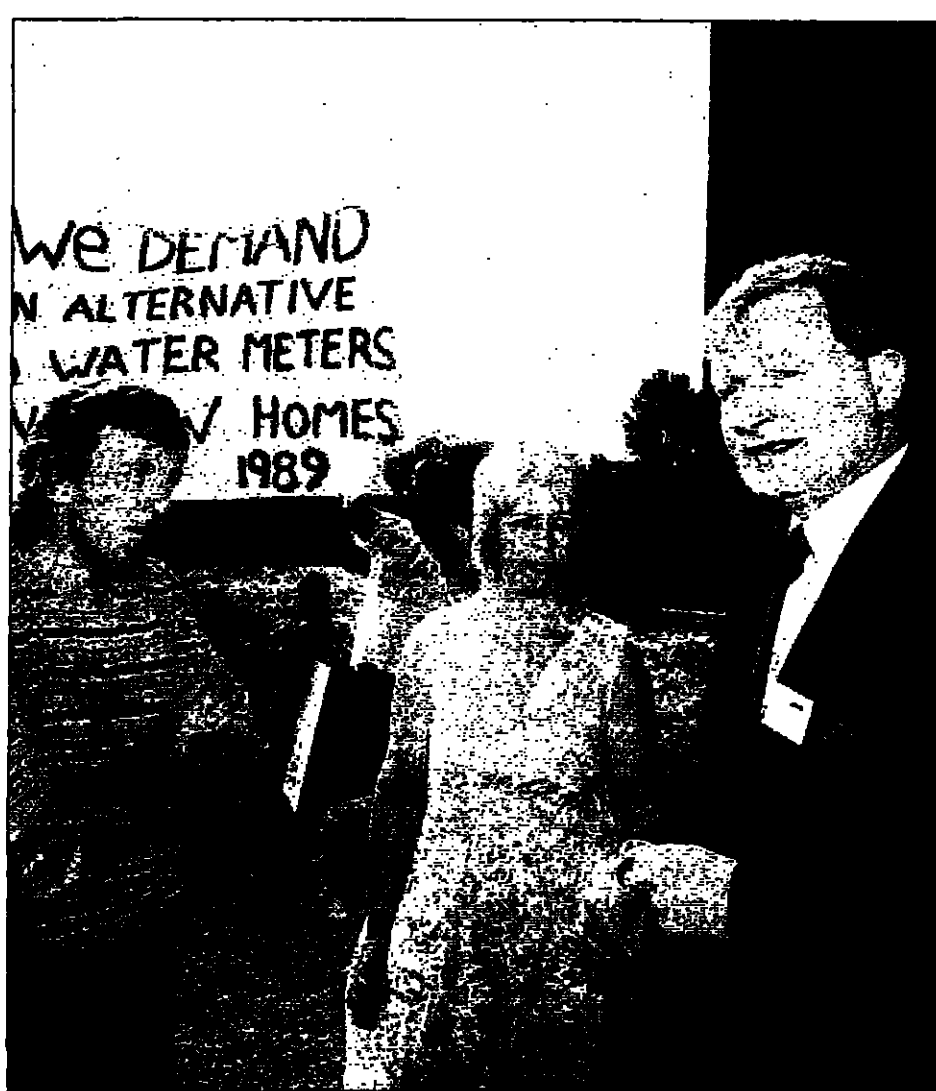
But liqueurs, wines and other spirits gained across all markets, with champagne sales rising 3 per cent

and sales of Famous Grouse and Macallan whiskies performing especially strongly.

Remy added that sales in the first quarter of this year had been flat at Fr1,277 million. Operating profits slid 35 per cent to Fr539 million. Remy maintained its dividend at 4.6 francs a share.

A continuing fall in cognac sales was offset by more gains in sales of other drinks. But Remy noted that first-quarter sales account for less than 20 per cent of annual sales because of the seasonal nature of the business.

Shares in Remy slipped by about 2.5 per cent on the Paris Bourse yesterday. The poor outlook for cognac sales also affected shares in LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton, in which Guinness holds a 31 per cent stake. In London, Highland shares closed down 3p at 371p.



Bob Baty, right, managing director of South West Water, talks to protesters before the annual meeting yesterday. The £800,000 pay-off for Bill Fraser, his predecessor, was attacked by shareholders, but the company, which is facing bids from Severn Trent and Wessex Water, received some support for its efforts to remain independent

New Titan scheme is not illegal, says QC

BY JON ASHWORTH

TITAN Business Club, the money-making scheme ruled illegal last week, is trying to bounce back with a new scheme. Details emerged in the High Court yesterday, when the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) pressed its case for Titan to be wound up, threatening members with losses of up to £17 million.

Colin Ross-Munro, QC, for the company, told the court of plans for a scheme which was "not an illegal lottery", and said that it was not in the public interest that Titan be wound down. Court injunctions restrain Titan International Inc and Titan International LLC, an American limited liability company, from holding meetings or taking money from members, or exporting money from the UK, pending a DTI request to have their operations closed.

Asked by the QC to review the injunctions, Mr Justice Ferris said: "What you mean is more people would be able to lose £3,000 [the fee to join the club]." The QC replied: "This is an entirely new scheme... but already it has been stifled."

The judge agreed the case should be heard within ten days.

Dairy Crest set to take a drop on float price

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

DAIRY CREST, the UK's third largest milk producer and the former processing arm of the Milk Marketing Board, is set to announce its placing price, expected to be 160p, this morning.

The price will value the company at £175 million, well below the £200 million the company had hoped for. Dealings are to begin on August 28.

The company is placing 30 per cent of its shares with institutions. The rest will go to the 28,000 farmers who formerly owned the Milk Marketing Board. They will have the choice between cashing in their ownership of the company or taking up their shares.

Unigate, a competitor to Dairy Crest, said yesterday that trading in the first four months of this financial year had been "broadly in line with expectations, although, with weak dairy commodity prices not yet reflected in lower milk costs, it is by no means easy going."

Ian Martin, Unigate's chairman, said future growth largely depends upon "our ability to enlarge our food and distribution businesses with high quality acquisitions." Unigate closed up 4½p at 407½p.

Ex-BNB director to get £250,000

BY JON ASHWORTH

BNB Resources, the human resources company that owns Norman Broadbent International, the headhunter, has settled a potentially embarrassing legal dispute by paying £250,000 to a former director.

Andrew Goodman was suing BNB for £2.5 million, alleging unfair dismissal and breach of contract.

Mr Goodman was managing director of Goodman Graham, an information technology recruitment specialist bought by BNB last year.

He has agreed not to compete with Goodman Graham until May 1997 and not to work directly with Goodman Graham clients or employees until May 2000. BNB had agreed to pay a maximum of £7 million over three years for Goodman Graham. The amount of deferred consideration has been reduced from £4 million to £1.5 million, leaving BNB with a total bill of £4.5 million.

David Norman, chairman of BNB Resources, said that the settlement was "fair and very satisfactory". He said revenues at Goodman Graham were expected to grow by more than 25 per cent in the half-year to June.

Mr Norman has been grappling with problems at Norman Broadbent, which has suffered a series of staff defections.

NEWBURY Building Society Head Office: 17 Bartholomew Street, Newbury RG14 5LY Telephone: 01835 43876

Revised Interest Rates
The new rates of interest effective from 31 July 1996 on Newbury investment accounts are set out below:

Current Accounts	Gross Rate	Net Rate
Treasury Plus		
£1,000 - £9,999	3.35	2.84
£10,000 - £24,999	4.50	3.80
£25,000 - £49,999	5.00	4.00
£50,000 and OVER	5.50	4.40
Instant Premium		
£500 - £4,999	3.05	2.44
£5,000 - £9,999	3.35	2.65
£10,000 - £24,999	3.75	3.00
£25,000 and OVER	4.10	3.28
Newbury Monthly Income		
£2,500 - £9,999	3.83	3.14
£10,000 - £19,999	(CAR) 4.00	3.53
£20,000 - £29,999	(CAR) 4.50	3.91
£30,000 and OVER	(CAR) 5.00	4.29
TESSA 93 & Follow-Up TESSA		
Young Saver		
£1 - £499	2.65	2.12
£500 - £4,999	3.05	2.44
£5,000 - £9,999	3.35	2.65
£10,000 - £24,999	3.75	3.00
£25,000 and OVER	4.10	3.28
Paid up shares	1.20	0.96
Closed Accounts		
Premium Shares	3.05	2.44
Castle Extra Interest	3.05	2.44
Tower Account	3.01	2.41
Tower Monthly Income	2.15	1.72
Gross Interest	£1 - £999	0.85
	£5,000 and OVER	0.70
TESSA (1)	6.20	Tax Exempt
TESSA (H)	6.20	Tax Exempt

The above rates are variable. Without U.K. Income Tax deducted. "Compound Annual Rate". Free of U.K. Income Tax. If assuming that monthly interest payments remain at the account. "Free of U.K. Income Tax". The net rate is exclusive of the appropriate rate of Income Tax (which may be reclaimed by non-taxpayers) or gross, subject to the required repayment. Newbury Building Society only accepts new investment applications from within its branch operational area.

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BARCLAYS MERCHANTILE

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT

	Six months ended 30 June 1996	Year ended 31 Dec 1995
Revenue	R000	R000
Income from investments	5 951	16 229
Surplus on realisation of investments	642	-
Interest received	808	1 102
Sundry revenue	10	13
	7 411	17 344
Expenditure	725	1 105
Profit before tax	6 686	16 175
Tax	23	(14)
Profit after tax	6 663	16 189
Unappropriated profit, brought forward	14	22
	6 675	16 211
Less:	6 658	16 197
Dividends declared	5 518	10 117
Interim Nil (20c)	-	3 679
Final 30c (35c)	5 518	6 338
Transfer to reserves	1 140	6 080
Unappropriated profit carried forward	17	14
Earnings per share - cents	36	88
Dividends per share - cents	30	55
	times covered	1.2

CHANGE OF YEAR END
To facilitate the consolidation of the financial results of the company with those of its holding company it was necessary to change the company's accounting period from 31 December to 30 June in terms of Section 285(2)(a) of the Companies Act, 1973. The announcement accordingly covers the six months ended 30 June 1996.

In comparing the results for the six months to 30 June 1996 with the previous results, it should be borne in mind that the major part of the Group's income normally occurs in the second half of the calendar year.

Head Office and Share Transfer Office:
75 Fox Street
Johannesburg 2001
Republic of South Africa

London Office and Office of United Kingdom Registrar:
Gold Fields Corporate Services Limited
Greencoat House
Francis Street,
London SW1P 1DH

By order of the Board:
per pro GOLD FIELDS
CORPORATE SERVICES LIMITED
London Secretaries
S.J. Dunning
Secretary

DECLARATION OF FINAL DIVIDEND
Dividend No. 99 of 30 cents per share, in respect of the six months ended 30 June 1996, has been declared in South African currency, payable to members registered at the close of business on 16 August 1996.

Dividends will be electronically transferred to members' bank or building society accounts on 11 September 1996 or, where this method of payment has not been mandated, dividend warrants will be posted to members on 10 September 1996.

The standard conditions relating to the payment of dividends are obtainable from the share transfer office and the London Office of the company.

The register of members will be closed from 17 August to 25 August 1996, inclusive.

30 July 1996

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Fry's Nomura's delight

SIMON FRY is the man to watch after mighty Robert Mapstone's resignation this week as co-head of equity trading at Nomura International. When Fry was taken on as head of asset trading in October 1994, all smiles and sunniness from CS First Boston, two competitive types at Nomura made a bet on how long it would take the new boy to renege on the money that Nomura had splashed out acquiring him.

The most optimistic bet was three months and Fry did not disappoint. The lucky winner of the bet was whisked off to lunch, in a swanky restaurant, in a city of his choice. Meantime, Fry has been invited to share Mapstone's responsibilities with Nomura International president Takashi Tsutsui, and who knows what fortune holds for the man who backed him.

Going home

THE former Jamaican High Commission, and the London building that once housed Crockfords, one of the world's most famous gaming houses, between 1828 and 1840, is set to become a casino again. London Clubs has bought the imposing building in St James's Street to rehouse the casino it currently operates in the basement of the nearby Ritz Hotel. Discussions with the Ritz Hotel to extend the lease were in their final stages when the imposing building became available.



"With so many branch closures, it's difficult to find a bank open"

Testing time

PAUL PINDAR, managing director of Capita, announced some interesting results yesterday, aside from the outsourcing group's interim figures. Last month, a troop of 30 analysts and institutional investors was marshalled to Coventry for the day. Their mission? To inspect the national call centre for running the new theory part of the driving test, for which Capita was awarded the contract by the Driving Standards Agency. The mob were shuffled into the examination room, and put under theory test conditions. While 90 per cent of the analysts passed, the institutional investors lagged some way behind.

Just like that

DEREK Wanless, group chief executive at NatWest, was let off lightly yesterday after he turned up ten minutes late for a Radio 5 interview with Paul Charles of *The Financial World Tonight*. Charles was already furious with the bank — his NatWest Visa card had been stolen in a London restaurant 12 days before, and he had still not received a replacement card. Yesterday morning, Charles called up NatWest in a terrible rage, threatening to tell their boss of his dilemma. When Wanless eventually turned up at Broadcasting House ten minutes late, he was interviewed on the bank's interim results, he was waving in his hand a parking new Visa card for Charles.

MORAG PRESTON

M&S enterprise aiming to make its marks in Germany

The UK retailer's

Cologne opening

is seen as a

bold move, says

Michael Kallenbach

When Marks & Spencer opens its doors to customers in Germany for the first time in October, it will not only have the unenviable task of breaking through German bureaucracy, but also the challenge of convincing the inflexible German palate that British food is quite tasty after all.

For years, Germans have been brought up with the idea that they should consume only German products. The idea that custard tarts, trifles and pork pies are just as tasty if not cheaper than say wurst and sauerkraut, will be among the company's first battles to overcome.

The German ethic, after all, is to buy Siemens rather than Panasonic, BMW rather than a Honda. For years, under the *Reinheitsgebot*, the brewing purity laws, Germans have been conditioned to believe their own beer is better than anything that foreigners can produce. But undeterred by mutterings, M&S is pouring thousands of marks into its new store in Cologne. Located in the Schildergasse, Cologne's Oxford Street, the company reacted quickly last year to a slump in the German property market to acquire the 4,700 sq metre premises over six floors.

Although this is not M&S's first venture in a German-speaking country — it has branches in Austria — it is seen, by analysts as a bold, yet necessary, move. The company first looked at Germany in 1990 soon after the Berlin Wall was breached; but then, with the political uncertainty surrounding unification, property prices leapt out of all proportion and the company decided to bide its time, keeping its options open.

But now that it has a foothold there is talk that other stores will open elsewhere in Germany. Hamburg, the most English-speaking of German cities, is being looked at favourably, as is Berlin, the past and future capital of Germany, even though Galleries Lafayette, the French retailer, has already established itself in eastern Berlin.

Clive Nickolds, one of the M&S directors responsible for continental European operations, is the first to acknowledge that there is a great deal of intense German competition to face, and "we still have a lot to learn about trading here". But in spite of this, the company will, from the beginning at least, offer the exact range of goods available in UK stores, with the exception of bedding.

Marc Bauwens, project manager for the Germany launch, is the first to admit that in the past "the Germans always looked after themselves first", but now things are changing and he hopes M&S will make inroads into the clothing and footwear industry, a market currently worth £48 billion. "The Germans like to wear daring



Scenting success: the new M&S store will open in Cologne's version of Oxford Street early in October

colours and we will have to watch that area very closely," he says, "but fashion is becoming more universal, and we try to keep up with fashion colours. We do not profess to be trendsetters."

But it is in the foods department that Bauwens hopes the company will make the biggest impact on the German market. Explaining to a *hausfrau* what coronation chicken or even a Christmas pudding is may be a daunting task, but the company has done its research and believes customers are ready for new eating adventures. "There are changes going on in German society and we will offer our full range of international foods", Bauwens explains.

"While the German housewife is not exactly disappearing, our research shows us that half the households in Cologne are occupied by either one or two people, and that more women are going to work and doing less in the kitchen."

If M&S has done its homework properly, it could be tapping into a new take-home convenience market at pre-

cisely the right time. And it could well be that Germans are ready for it. Even though Germans traditionally eat their main meal, a hot one, at lunchtime, it could be that they take readily to the M&S food range.

The company's slogan, "Quality, Value and Service", has not been translated for the German market, but a new one developed for a new market — *Kein Kaufhaus, Weltanschauung* (not a department store, but a world philosophy). The thinking behind this is that M&S believes Germany does not necessarily need another department store, particularly since the Schildergasse is filled with them. "Our policy of coming over here,"

New venture, new slogan: 'Not a department store, but a world philosophy'

says Bauwens. "is already here. We want to be ourselves."

The staff, most already on board, is being trained in the M&S philosophy. The 150 sales assistants will spend a week at the Baker Street headquarters between now and October to be immersed in company thinking — polite service and offering the customer

a quality product. Above all, they will be told that smiling and being pleasant to customers is almost a British way of life, something the German service industry seems to have long forgotten.

Although the Germans are credited with having invented the expression "the customer is king", more often than not they treat customers with disdain. It is also rare to get German employees to wear uniforms and M&S will have to overcome this resistance.

When Richard Branson tried a similar scheme for the opening of his record store in Berlin several years ago, the staff refused to be told what to wear. On the management side, 15 German commercial and financial experts have already been selected, with the aim of keeping the team 60 per cent German and 40 per cent British.

The German venture could not come at a better time. After years of public debate, the German Government recently agreed to liberalise its outdated laws governing shop opening and closing times. From November, it will no longer be necessary to close at 6.30pm every weekday and at 2 pm on Saturdays, except for the first Saturday of each month.

M&S waited for the right time to dip its toe into a market of 80 million customers. This could be it.

Bass creating a potent Czech brew of its own

Alasdair Murray on a successful foray into a fiercely protective beer market

Tucked away beneath Prague's television tower — a rocket-shaped absurdity bequeathed by the dying communist regime — is U Sadu, a gloomy, smoke-filled Czech pub frequented by locals from the fiercely working-class suburb of Zizkov. Like many Prague pubs, U Sadu — "The Orchard" — has undergone changes since the old regime collapsed in 1989. Smoke-stained walls have been touched up with brightly coloured paint, the games room boasts the latest fruit machines, while the basement has finally been opened up, ensuring that customers no longer have to fight for a seat.

But in the past six years one thing has not changed — the price of beer. The pub did try recently to push through an increase equivalent to less than 1p and barely reflective of inflation since prices were liberalised, but its regulars refused to accept any rise in their precious beer.

The Czechs are the world's biggest beer drinkers, consuming 162 litres per person each year. The country also produces some of the best beer in the world — indeed

unfashionable Moravia, in the east, to become the country's second largest brewer, with 16 per cent of the market. Radegast also sponsors the Czech football team, whose players credited late-night beer-drinking sessions for the team's unexpected success in Euro 96.

Rumours continue that Bass is also aiming to take a stake in Budvar, the famous export beer, although it is likely to face fierce competition from Heineken and Anheuser-Busch. Anheuser, which produces Budweiser, is desperate to buy into Budvar to end a dispute over the Budweiser trademark (Budweiser is the Germanic form of Budvar) that has been hampering the American giant's plans for globalising its beer.

But, for the moment, Bass has stolen a march on its rivals. Bass's first target is to establish Staropramen as a national brand. A legacy of the communist structuring of the brewing industry is that there are no national brands because each brand was confined to selling in its own region. Most of the country's 71 breweries are effectively bankrupt. They have no qualms about trying to steal back

Most foreign companies have struggled to find a niche in the Czech market

sales by keeping prices low, preventing Bass and its main rivals from pushing through the price rises needed to make the industry truly profitable. Bass, meanwhile, has helped to put in place a £50 million investment programme to bring its Prague brewery up to date. The first stage includes new brewing equipment due to be completed by the end of this year. It has been designed to revert to the old brewing methods if necessary.

Bass's other ambition is to fulfil the export potential of the brands. In the communist era, only Budvar and Pilsner Urquell were exported and the country still exports only about 1.5 million hectolitres (32 million gallons) a year. Bass has been pushing Staropramen hard in the UK as a premium foreign lager. It has deduced that the long-term success of its Czech experiment depends on keeping the U Sadu regulars happy.

Boss's attention to detail cuts costs

Jon Ashworth on the collected office missives of Alan Greenberg of Bear Stearns

If everyone ran a business like Alan Greenberg, sales of paper clips would plummet, stationery suppliers would despair, and anyone with an MBA would be filling the dole queues.

Greenberg, long-serving chairman of Bear Stearns, the US investment bank, is renowned on Wall Street for the biting quality of his internal memos. Now the bad news: they have been released to the world at large.

Memos From The Chairman is not a book one would immediately put on the boss's Christmas list. Take Greenberg's comments on MBAs, outlined in a circular to staff in May 1981: "If someone with an MBA degree applies for a job, we will certainly not hold it against them, but we are really looking for people with PSD degrees" — that is, poor, smart and with a deep desire to become rich.

He adds: "They build this firm and there are plenty around because our competition seems to be restricting themselves to MBAs." So much for the year at Harvard.

Greenberg is obsessed with cutting expenses, but it is the subject of paper clips that really inflames him. In August 1985, he banned the purchase of paper clips, urging staff to re-use items attached to incoming mail. He later extended the initiative to rubber bands. Secretaries sealing en-



Wanted: smart workers with a deep desire to become rich

velopes for internal mail were urged to lick a small portion at a time, ensuring repeated use. As Greenberg notes: "If one has a small tongue and good co-ordination, an envelope could be opened and resealed ten times."

The sarcasm undoubtedly masks some solid business sense. Greenberg's memos are filled with references to cutting costs, returning telephone calls, and keeping one's feet firmly on the ground. At one point, he proposes fitting radio collars to employees who refuse to leave contact numbers, adding: "The collars are bulky and not very attractive."

Last year was not a great one for Bear Stearns, which saw net income fall from \$387 million to \$241 million in the year to June 30, 1995, on

revenues of \$3.8 billion. Figures for the latest financial year, due this week, are expected to show a sharp improvement. Greenberg would probably blame the temporary reversal on MBA graduates, or, worse still, charists. He once noted that he had found a market technician who would literally work for peanuts.

He went on: "All we have to supply him with is paper and pencil, and Doodles Danenberg will do his job. We will then distribute his graphs, which I promise you will be as good as any technical work done on Wall Street."

Doodles, he added, was a chimpanzee at the Central Park Zoo.

□ *Memos From The Chairman* (Workman, £10.99) will be published on September 18.

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT	Year ended 30 June 1996	Year ended 30 June 1995
Revenue	R000	R000
Income from investments	18 973	21 053
Surplus on realisation of investments	6 531	6 075
Interest received	270	691
Sundry revenue	19	19
	25 793	27 838
Expenditure	4 630	4 389
Administration	2 157	2 088
Exploration	2 276	2 079
Interest paid	197	222
Profit before tax	21 163	23 449
Tax	-	-
Profit after tax	21 163	23 449
Unappropriated profit, brought forward	68	99
	21 231	23 548
Less:	21 200	23 480
Dividends declared	15 930	15 930
Interim 17c (17c)	5 208	5 208
Final 35c (35c)	10 722	10 722
Transfer to reserves	5 270	7 550
Unappropriated profit carried forward	31	68
Earnings per share - cents	69	77
Dividends per share - cents	52	52
- times covered	1.3	1.5

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET	Year ended 30 June 1996	Year ended 30 June 1995
	R000	R000
Investments	167 729	166 609
Properties and ventures	135	135
Net current liabilities	(2 972)	(7 085)
Current assets	8 818	6 436
Cash	5 036	873
Other	3 782	5 564
Less current liabilities	11 790	13 527
Share capital	164 892	150 650
Reserves	88 425	88 425
	76 467	71 234
	164 892	150 650
Investments		
Listed - Market value	603 954	513 203
- Excess over book value	437 501	347 872
- Book value	166 453	165 333
Unlisted - Book value	1 276	1 276
Shares in issue unchanged at 30 635 201		
Net asset value per share - cents	2 066	1 745

DECLARATION OF FINAL DIVIDEND

Dividend No. 91 of 35 cents per share, in respect of the year ended 30 June 1996, has been declared in South African currency, payable to members registered at the close of business on 16 August 1996.

Dividends will be electronically transferred to members' bank or building society accounts on 11 September 1996 or, where this method of payment has not been mandated, dividend warrants will be posted to members on 10 September 1996.

The standard conditions relating to the payment of dividends are obtainable from the share transfer office and the London Office of the company.

The registers of members will be closed from 17 August to 23 August 1996, inclusive.

Head Office and Share Transfer Office:
75 Fox Street
Johannesburg 2001
Republic of South Africa

London Office and Office of United Kingdom Registrar:
Gold Fields Corporate Services Limited
Greencoat House
Francis Street,
London SW1P 1DH

By order of the Board:
per GOLD FIELDS
CORPORATE SERVICES LIMITED
London Secretary
S.J. Dunning
Secretary

30 July 1996

THE TIMES WEDNESDAY JULY 31 1996

THE TIMES WEDNESDAY JULY 31 1996

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Special Sit.	143.68	122.70	+ 0.20	1.24
Technology	199.70	183.30	+ 0.16	0.83
Utilities	189.40	208.10	- 1.80	- 0.83
US Bank Corp.	64.38	68.78	+ 0.32	3.23
US Telecom	144.00	142.00	- 0.20	- 1.39
PRESIDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0171 475 2877 Const. Div.	0171 811 4400			
Aluminum Ind.	44.74	46.36	+ 0.12	1.17
Chemical Ind.	107.10	107.10	+ 0.00	0.00
Food Ind.	107.10	107.10	+ 0.00	0.00
Health Care	107.10	107.10	+ 0.00	0.00
Ind. Tech.	107.10	107.10	+ 0.00	0.00
Int'l. Tech.	107.10	107.10	+ 0.00	0.00
Life Sci.	107.10	107.10	+ 0.00	0.00
Pharm.	107.10	107.10	+ 0.00	0.00
Real Estate	107.10	107.10	+ 0.00	0.00
Sec. Serv.	107.10	107.10	+ 0.00	0.00
Telecom.	107.10	107.10	+ 0.00	0.00
Transport.	107.10	107.10	+ 0.00	0.00
Utilities	107.10	107.10	+ 0.00	0.00
Waste	107.10	107.10	+ 0.00	0.00
Other	107.10	107.10	+ 0.00	0.00
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Food Ind.	107.10	107.10	+ 0.00	0.00
Health Care	107.10	107.10	+ 0.00	0

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Losses halved by the close

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

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Real [REDACTED] FOR [REDACTED] PUNKS

NOT AVAILABLE FOR THE FIRST TIME ON VIDEO

FEATURING THE PROMO'S
ANALYST IN THE UK &
ROD SAYS THE QUEEN

THE LAST LIVE CONCERT
FROM THE ORIGINAL BAND

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AVAILABLE FROM:
All good music video outlets

OFFICIAL

■ SNAPSHOTS

Day Three of our series on top tourist attractions braves the white-knuckle experience that is Chessington



■ VISUAL ART

Glittering treasures the rest of the world ignored: the Khalili collection of Islamic art goes on show in London

THE TIMES ARTS

■ PROM

At the Albert Hall, Trevor Pinnock struggles with the problem of 'period' music-making in large venues



■ TOMORROW

A big screen debut for Roald Dahl's whimsical tale of hopes and dreams, *James and the Giant Peach*

SUMMER SNAPSHOT: Richard Morrison clings on for dear life at Chessington World of Adventures

A mad social whirl in the park

Here is a test of your capitalist instincts. You are a British investor and the year is 1979. Someone says to you: "I have this wonderful scheme for making money. We will build machines that scare the pants off the public. We will give them lurid, pseudo-mythic names evoking horrible deaths, like *Jaws of Hell* or *Torab of Torture*. We will strap the punters in, so that they cannot change their minds and escape."



there it was known humbly as Chessington Zoo, and it had much to be humble about. Visitors would stare moodily at monkeys. Monkeys would stare moodily back — and that was about it.

There are lawns and a zoo, then in the distance you hear the screams

"We will hurl them round incessantly at terrifying speed until they go green at the gills. We will soak them to the skin with muddy water, and utterly humiliate them in front of hundreds of cackling strangers — and (this is the good bit) we will charge them handsomely for the experience. It can't fail to catch on. Now, will you put money into it?"

Be honest. You have just turned down the chance to play midwife to Britain's first theme parks, haven't you? Those same theme parks that have grown, in just 17 years, into a £130 million industry. The theme parks that are visited, so they claim, at least once a year by 22 per cent of all British adults and 36 per cent of children. Yes, you have made quite a miscalculation. With 11 million visitors a year to Thorpe Park, Alton Towers and their dozen competitors, and with each family paying around £60 for admission, you could have been on to a nice little earner.

Last weekend I revisited Chessington. When I last went

lowed, Disney World was clearly the inspiration, but the atmosphere was still very British: more Bank Holiday Margate than Fortnight in Florida. Pearson formed the Tussauds Group (which now also owns Alton Towers and controls 40 per cent of the market), invested £18 million in Chessington, expanded it to include half a dozen different themed areas — you can walk from the Wild West world of "Calamity Canyon" to the Ancient Egyptian curses of "Forbidden Kingdom" in a few minutes — and renamed it Chessington World of Adventures. Among tourist attractions charging for admission, it is now the fourth most visited in Britain.



New worlds to conquer: filling the thrills vacuum for Britain's post-fairground generation has meant monster profits for Chessington and its ilk

When you first enter, it is deceptively calm. There are English lawns and a mock Tudor mansion, and the remnants of the zoo ("Animal Land") which boasts some exotic breeds among the sea lions and tigers: a mean-looking Brazilian tapir, an Arabian addax with crazy, twisted horns.

But then, in the distance, you hear the screams. From "Transylvania" comes the sound of The Vampire, a rollercoaster alleged to resemble the flight of a bloodsucking bat. It certainly drained the blood from my face — and as you emerge they show you the photographs to prove it. If that doesn't churn you up sufficiently, there is the dithering Runaway Minecart in "Calamity Canyon", and a huge flume called Dragon River in the "Mystic East" area. These however are mere carousels when compared to

the ghastly contraption that has made Chessington a byword for wide-eyed terror in school playgrounds across southern England. Rameses Revenge (the apostrophe has no place in the modern theme park) has what they call in the trade a "three-way fear factor". This means that it twists its riders through 360 degrees in two different planes simultaneously, while squirting them with water. The sensation of being plunged upside down from 60ft in the air into a rock-lined pit is much prized: the queues are long and impatient.

Not all at Chessington is white-knuckle stuff. A "Big City Circus", largely staffed by Hungarians with dazzling physiques, is as lively a show as anything currently travelling under a big top in Britain. "Toytown" offers gentle roundabouts for toddlers; I quite enjoyed those. But they

hold no "scream appeal" for the vital 10-15 age group.

Whether sane grown-ups come away thinking that all these cardboard "worlds" constitute the nadir of naïf or simply a good way of keeping children amused for several hours, depends largely on temperament. But don't underestimate the amount of psychology that goes into a theme park's construction.

They survive and prosper by appealing simultaneously to three different types of children — which they categorise as "daredevils", "anxious triers" and "clingers". What's more, the cunning theme-park operators have also identified three different types of parents to which they must also appeal. They are "child appreciators" who enjoy having fun with their children; "child dependents"

who "live vicariously" through their children; and "adult martyrs", the "reluctant parents" who are essentially marking time waiting for their children to grow up.

A successful theme park must not only attract all these categories, but also detain them within the grounds for several hours. The longer a family stays inside a theme park ("dwell time"), the more burgers, drinks and souvenirs are purchased ("secondary spend"). That is where the big profits come.

Are theme parks a good thing? To some sophisticated they inhabit the same synthetic world as virtual-reality video games and pubs called The Elfin and Gropes. But they satisfy two apparently conflicting needs in modern urban life. Present-day children — whose lives are, by and large, more confined, sedentary and comfortable than ever before

— crave open-air thrills. But parents put safety first. The last thing they want is any sniff of the seediness traditionally associated with old-fashioned fairgrounds.

The theme park offers the illusion of danger, and it succeeds by playing on people's fears. But in reality all is controlled, clean, neat. While I was in Chessington I saw two boys attempt to stand up and wave while suspended 50ft in the air on the wildly swinging "Smugglers' Galleon". It was crass, unthinking and dangerous. On the other hand, it was a typical teenage stunt. They were yanked off the machine, given a stiff lecture, and ejected from the premises. In the modern theme park you get your thrills strictly within the rules, or not at all.

Tomorrow: A Summer Snapshot of Westminster Abbey

BBC PROM

Periods of tedium

English Concert/
Pinnock
Albert Hall/Radio 3

THE problem of "period" music-making in large concert halls was highlighted in Tuesday's Prom by the English Concert and its choir under Trevor Pinnock. Even when an unauthentically large orchestra is assembled in the Albert Hall, gut strings and old-fashioned winds cannot "speak" with their characteristic directness, and the whole exercise loses some of its point.

The centrepiece was Haydn's *Mass in Time of War* (1796), one of the six last masses that represent the pinnacle of his achievement. But in this performance — with a choir of three dozen — the dark, foreboding fanfares and drum rolls in the *Agnus Dei* evoked little of the menace in the title. At least the performance boasted a solo quartet of fine young singers. The only extended solo is the Gloria's "Qui tollis", and Gerald Finley shaped the lines with Lied-like intensity, his baritone full of pleading emotion. John Mark Ainsley was refined in the small tenor part, and the women, Susan Gritton and Catherine Wyn-Rogers, were well matched.

There was some compensation for a routinely played programme of Haydn and Mozart in two infrequently heard works. Haydn's *The Storm* is a secular choral piece burdened with an aura of religious respectability, and hardly hints at the wild invention in *The Creation*. It is in one succinct movement, but this dreary performance highlighted its repetitiveness.

The concert had opened with a Mozart symphony never before played at the Proms: No 23 in D, K 181, an overture-like work in which the three short movements run into one. Pinnock, directing from a barely audible harpsichord, was fast and inflexible; the "spiritoso" of the *Allegro* was closer to "furioso". His reluctance to shape phrases did slightly less damage to Mozart's *Jupiter Symphony*, a work in which nothing can extinguish the blaze of genius. Still, there was a shortage of grandeur, rhetorical gesture and sometimes precision in what was in every way a lightweight performance.

JOHN ALLISON

Turkey with all the trimmings

Empire of the Sultans presents only a fraction of a collection, but it still impresses, says John Russell Taylor

THE Nasser D. Khalili Collection of Islamic Art is one of the grandest and most extensive now in private hands — especially remarkable in that it has been almost entirely amassed in the past 20 years. The splendid show, the opening attraction of the London University School of Oriental and African Studies' elegant new Brunel Gallery, concerns itself exclusively with the Ottoman elements in the collection, which constitute less than 5 per cent of the whole.

The works on show indicate an enterprising and idiosyncratic taste, and incidentally suggest how such a glittering collection could have been put together in such a comparatively short time. On the whole, experts in Ottoman art have tended to dismiss the 19th century as a period of decadence and corruption from the outside. It has apparently been impossible to appreciate the Topkapı Sarayı and at the same time enjoy the rococo friills of the Dolmabahçe Palace for what they are.

But, in any case, by no means all 19th-century art in Turkey falls into this semi-kitsch category: much is made very consistently along traditional lines. Some of the imperial documents, for instance, might in style and quality of calligraphy date from two or three centuries earlier.

This is just one of the areas where the Khalili Collection has built up strength from buying things the rest of the world ignored. Unfortunately,

it has been necessary to reduce the size of the exhibition from its first showing in Geneva last year, and some of the most charming later pieces, such as the fiendishly elaborate paper cuts, have got rather lost in the shuffle. Also, such larger pieces as the suits of intricately inlaid armour and most of the weapons have proved impossible to fit in.

In recompense, many real gems of significant art are here. The famously intimidating 15th-century iron and steel war mask, with beaten and engraved decoration, is fortunately of a manageable size. There are the most wonderful illuminated books and leather bindings, obsessively detailed in the decoration but at the same time witnessing to a stern sense of order beneath the superficial entanglement. Occasionally the interest of what we are seeing is of the kind which wonders at the dexterity of someone whose ambition would appear to be to inscribe the whole of the Koran on a single grain of rice.

But, on the whole, such finicking pursuits are not encouraged. Instead, we have the most splendid multicoloured Iznik pottery, and the most exquisite miniature vignettes of Ottoman life. There are rugs and hangings that would make any Western mouth water; significantly, though Khalili himself holds a New York degree in computer science, he comes from several generations of Isfahan dealers in carpets and lacquerware.

At present, the vast collection, of which this show represents merely the tip of the tip of



A page from the original *Siyer-i Nabi*, the Turkish version of the Life of Muhammad, left, and a poetical anthology in ohlong (sefine) format, both late 16th century

the iceberg, is stored in London. There has been much discussion recently as to where it will eventually be housed. Last year in Geneva there were rumours to the effect that the city had agreed to meet the collector's conditions and provide a complete, custom-built museum building for it, site as yet undecided. Now the issue seems to be a little less clear

cut. Certainly hearing from Professor Michael Rogers, London-based honorary curator and author of the catalogue for this show, that the collection as a whole is "far more systematic and historical" in its putting-together than those of the British Museum and the Victoria & Albert, or that it includes more than 500 illuminated Korans, as against the

British Museum's 50, it is difficult not to fret a little at the prospect of its departure. But at least this show, highly enjoyable in itself, provides very palpable evidence of what we may be missing.

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TIMES/17



Andy L.

W

T

THE problem of "period" music-making in large concert halls was highlighted in Tuesday's Prom by the English Concert and its choir under Trevor Pinnock. Even when an unauthentically large orchestra is assembled in the Albert Hall, gut strings and old-fashioned winds cannot "speak" with their characteristic directness, and the whole exercise loses some of its point.

The centrepiece was Haydn's *Mass in Time of War* (1796), one of the six last masses that represent the pinnacle of his achievement. But in this performance — with a choir of three dozen — the dark, foreboding fanfares and drum rolls in the *Agnus Dei* evoked little of the menace in the title. At least the performance boasted a solo quartet of fine young singers. The only extended solo is the Gloria's "Qui tollis", and Gerald Finley shaped the lines with Lied-like intensity, his baritone full of pleading emotion. John Mark Ainsley was refined in the small tenor part, and the women, Susan Gritton and Catherine Wyn-Rogers, were well matched.

There was some compensation for a routinely played programme of Haydn and Mozart in two infrequently heard works. Haydn's *The Storm* is a secular choral piece burdened with an aura of religious respectability, and hardly hints at the wild invention in *The Creation*. It is in one succinct movement, but this dreary performance highlighted its repetitiveness.

The concert had opened with a Mozart symphony never before played at the Proms: No 23 in D, K 181, an overture-like work in which the three short movements run into one. Pinnock, directing from a barely audible harpsichord, was fast and inflexible; the "spiritoso" of the *Allegro* was closer to "furioso". His reluctance to shape phrases did slightly less damage to Mozart's *Jupiter Symphony*, a work in which nothing can extinguish the blaze of genius. Still, there was a shortage of grandeur, rhetorical gesture and sometimes precision in what was in every way a lightweight performance.

JOHN ALLISON

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THEATRE 1

Meet Paul Gregg, chairman of Apollo Leisure Group, and one of the most powerful men in British theatre



THEATRE 2

The Oxford Stage Company's version of *Hamlet* is short on enlightenment and long on endurance

THE TIMES ARTS



CABARET

An exuberant Gerard Kenny proves that his appeal as a performer remains undiminished



OFFER

Edinburgh nights: visit the world's biggest arts bash in August, courtesy of *The Times* Theatre Club

Andy Lavender on the Yorkshireman who has discovered that theatres are big business nationwide

Where there's shows there's brass

There is an argument that too many long-running musicals are clogging up London's West End theatres. Let us assume that you believe the opposite: there should in fact be more of them. They should be lavishly staged and housed in the grandest venues available. Moreover, they should also be seen in similar venues around the country. If this is your case, you will find a champion in Paul Gregg.

A Yorkshireman in his mid-fifties, Gregg is chairman of the Apollo Leisure Group, which makes him one of the most powerful behind-the-scenes figures in British theatre. He founded the company with his wife, Nitta, 19 years ago when they took over the lease of the New Theatre in Oxford. Since then Apollo has become the largest theatre operator in the country, employing more than 4,000 staff, owning 23 venues and running a number of others for various local authorities. Apollo's empire includes the Palace Theatre and the Opera House in Manchester, the Edinburgh Playhouse and the Bristol Hippodrome.

There's gold in them thar regions. By its opening night in Manchester, for instance, *Grease* had taken nearly £4 million in advance bookings. Gregg has accumulated a network of venues which he describes as "a sort of off-West End circuit that can take serious money at the box office."

He is also taking serious money at his caverns of popular culture in London. His company operates the Apollo Victoria, where *Starlight Express* has been running for nearly 13 years; the Dominion, where *Grease* has proved a surprise success; and the Hammersmith Apollo (formerly the Odeon), where *Riverdance* earns more than £500,000 a week. The Lyceum Theatre on the Strand, currently shrouded in builders' tarpaulins, is Gregg's latest acquisition and is due to reopen in November after standing derelict for eight years.

What is the secret of Apollo's continued ascent? "I'd say it is to do with being sentimental about the buildings, and maybe not the product," says Gregg. "The role we've created for ourselves is to provide the facilities and make theatregoing easier for people who want to see good shows — and try to make a profit out of it."

Should you think that this means dead-eyed entrepreneurs filling in provincial real estate with second-hand productions, Gregg insists that the touring shows can be more intoxicating than their West End incarnations. "Phantom of the Opera cost £3.5 million to produce on the road," he says. "With that kind of investment, the show was of



Unrepentant populist Paul Gregg on site at the Lyceum. The theatre, costing £4.5 million to restore, is set to reopen with Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Jesus Christ Superstar*

superb quality. It attracts people who may never have gone to the theatre before. I believe in developing an enormous theatre audience on the back of those kind of shows."

Apollo initially specialised in variety and light entertainment. Its current fondness for theatre spectaculars indicates a shift in the industry. The variety circuit has shrunk while, with careful production planning, mega-musicals can now be cloned any number of times. Not everyone delights in the spread of such anodyne extravaganzas. Isn't Gregg ever tempted to offer the public what he feels they ought to want, rather than such carefully packaged fare?

"I can only give them what they want," he says immediately. "Other-

wise I'm picking the tab up. Look, *Summer Holiday* [the musical adaptation of the film] is in Blackpool. It's great entertainment. It appeals to kids, grandmas and whoever. Cliff Richard appeals to. *Riverdance* might not be art but it's bloody good entertainment. I'm not trying to run Chichester and produce drama there. I wouldn't know where to start, to be honest."

Gregg knows where he is going, however. While four-fifths of Apollo's interests are theatrical, its portfolios include restaurants, nightclubs and hotels, and the company is looking to double the number of cinema screens it owns within the next four years.

Meanwhile, Gregg can rub his hands in anticipation of a satisfying theatrical year ahead. *Starlight Express* is still going strong. The Walt Disney Corporation is bringing a production of *Beauty and the Beast* to the Dominion in 1997, while *Heathcliff*, Cliff Richard's musical version of Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights*, will play a 20-week run at the Hammersmith Apollo. *Riverdance* will tour to Apollo's regional venues, as will productions of *Crazy for You*, *Les Misérables* and possibly *Cats*. Then there is the reopening of the Lyceum in London.

The last theatre performance at the Lyceum was given in 1939. It became a Mecca dance hall after the war, but fell into decline and

disrepair. Apollo Leisure acquired the lease in 1994 and has ploughed £4.5 million into the theatre's restoration — the fifth time in its history that it has been either rebuilt or renovated. The initial plan was to provide a temporary home for the denizens of the Royal Opera House during that venue's redevelopment. The accord fell through, making way for a new production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

Surely another Lloyd Webber offering — and a hoary one, at that — is hardly the most exciting choice, given that the Lyceum's boards have been trodden by the likes of Kean, Irving and Gielgud? "Everything that you do with Andrew Lloyd Webber is different and special,"

Gregg counters. "The right choice is the right commercial choice for the Lyceum and Apollo Leisure Group. It's also the right choice in attracting the biggest potential audience."

We have reached the bottom line. "You have to remember — and we're not ashamed of it — that we are a commercial entertainment company. We're not scared of that," Gregg says. "We've never stood up and said 'we're here for art'. We've proved, for example, that 3,500 people, for seven shows a week, want to see *Riverdance* at the Apollo Hammersmith. Good luck to them. They're having a great time and as far as I'm concerned, better that than some of the presentations that are put into the West End that absolutely nobody wants to see."

CABARET

The songs in his art

Gerard Kenny
Pizza on the Park

AFTER two weeks at Kettner's in Soho, the ebullient Gerard Kenny is now at this sister establishment, off Hyde Park Corner. Its crepuscular basement is dazzlingly illuminated by his exuberance and sheer joy in performing. And to judge by the opening night sell-out, his appeal as a cabaret performer is undiminished.

A songwriter whose satisfied clients include Barry Manilow, Shirley Bassey, Johnny Mathis and, er, Dennis Waterman (remember *I Could Be So Good For You*? It topped various charts and won an Ivor Novello award), Kenny has not troubled the chart compilers in some time. His style is old-fashioned, romantic, full-on sentimental. The opening song of his first set is *I Am the Singer*, an affirmation he reinforces through a dozen titles. They include *I Love a Piano* (he is inclined to give it a thorough workout to prove his ardour), *Fascinatin' Rhythm* and *I Got Rhythm* played as a medley, and a can-do anthem, which he hardly needs to admit is personal: *All For a Dream*.

Pleasant (and crowd-pleasing) as these are, it is in other moods that he is most distinctive. A tender, witty collaboration with Ned Sherrin, *Not Funny*, is a miniature masterpiece, beautifully recorded by Marian Montgomery and deserving of wider exposure. Cy Coleman's *It Amazes Me* and *Why Did I Choose You?* are similarly touching and patently sincere. His near-death in a car accident eight months ago has brought new relevance to the sentiments of *The Best of Times* is *Now*, which is too often merely a party sing-along.

An interlude in which he was joined by Kevin Farrell, the talented pianist currently playing in another London restaurant, offered slapstick humour (fighting over the keyboard in *Ten for Two*) and a comic duet about the lot of lounge pianists everywhere.

His second performance each night is made up entirely of his own compositions, but it is at least as interesting to get, in the early show, a sidelight on a musician whose bright and breezy persona may sometimes obscure his real depth and worth.

TONY PATRICK

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● HOUSTON Grand Opera presents Virgil Thomson's *Four Saints in Three Acts*, with a libretto by Gertrude Stein. Richard Bado conducts the Royal Scottish National Orchestra. Tickets normally £15 to £32.

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● PINA BAUSCH Tanztheater, Wuppertal, presents *Iphigenie auf Tauris*, by Christoph Willibald von Gluck, a fusion of dance, chorus and solo arias. Pina Bausch's incomparable dance company joins forces with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra and Scottish Opera Chorus. Tickets normally £18 to £45.

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A teenage nuisance

THEATRE

Hamlet
Rose, Oxford

When the Playhouse reopens in September, with its seats new and its air at last conditioned, even productions as long as this (three and a half hours with two intervals) may flash by. In the meantime, the Oxford Stage Company has gone back to the space it occupied when John Retallack became artistic director in 1989, the Newman Rooms opposite Christ Church, renamed for the Elizabethan playhouse being excavated on London's Bankside at the time.

A broad curtained level overlooks a square acting area in the main body of the hall bordered by seats on three sides. In the front row the audience must take care not to stretch a stiff leg or else risk tripping an actor running past in search of ghost, dead councillor or obstreperous prince. On the left hangs a portrait of the dead king, stern, uniformed; on the right a besuited Claudius smiles down. And across the floor and along the steps of Matthew Wright's set the names of glorious Danish dead have been incised and gilded: Askel Garsler, Lars Dinesen, line after line of them, Eriksens and Sorensens, women's names too, Marthe and Anna.

Possible explanations for this floated into my head during the evening. Inevitably, a war memorial was the first to come, but there is no obvious reason why the Danish court should be assembling on a cenotaph. Is it to provide a sense of history? Does it list the students in



Ian Pepperell: heartless

Hamlet's year expelled from Wittenberg? I have no answer. Claudius and Old Hamlet are both played by William Russell, in excellent form both in the martial stalk and sombre mien he presents as the Ghost and as his smiling murderer. Young Hamlet mentions these smiles — what a man may do yet be a villain — and this co-production by Retallack and Karl James makes smiling the keynote of Claudius's early scenes. He arrives to applause, led by Sheila Allen's Gertrude, and smilingly greets the line of courtiers. He may talk in his clipped voice of the nation's woe, but his lips show an undeniably contented curve.

Throughout the scene where Claudius is being graciously welcoming, one figure stands unimpressed by the charm, possibly oblivious to it. In open black shirt and overcoat, frozen in pique, or even grief, Ian Pepperell's Hamlet looks as young and peevish as a frustrated teenager. When his uncle starts cooing him in praise, he makes no effort to disguise his contempt; but Pepperell's voice does not develop the necessary range of tone to

keep one keen to see how this particular prince will fare.

He is good with the throw-away comedy, the "We could an if we would" jokes on the battlements, but, as his catalogue of crimes accumulates, this Hamlet is presented as a vociferous nuisance. In some performances "crimes" is a word that can be avoided when adding up all the people Hamlet casually kills. Claudius, after all, only kills his brother and, unlike Hamlet, feels remorse. Pepperell's Hamlet has no heart, and this makes Shakespeare's writing, often clumsy in this play, seem unconsidered. Witness Horatio's double standards over the deaths of the luckless Rosencrantz and Guildenstern.

The modern costumes also work against our tolerance of a troublesome prince, as does the Retallack/James idea of having one actor play Ghost and Claudius. Hamlet rails against the repellant man his mother has married: we see a perfectly dignified, silver-haired husband.

Performance and production do not grow; neither do they enlighten us with deepening understanding of the hero or the times he lives in, whatever these are meant to be. Colin George's Polonius and Gravedigger make a good pair, but Emma Cunliffe's Ophelia is dull. And another thing: if the duel is staged as some sort of medieval joust, it is perfectly natural for the poisoned cup to be set down on a table fatally near to Gertrude. In this production it has to be carried down the steps, over Cnut Thorkfinger and the rest of them, and put down by Gertrude's feet. She would have to be a paid-up member of Alcoholics Anonymous to resist it there.

JEREMY KINGSTON

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THE TIMES ARTS

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OPERA

Drottningholm remains one of the greatest joys in the operatic world, despite the oddities of its new Orphée

MUSIC ABROAD: Opera oddly served in Sweden; chamber treats in Finland

Flawed gem in a perfect setting

The pleasure — too mild a word, privilege is more fitting — of going to Drottningholm is so intense that to harbour even mild reservations seems childish and ungrateful. It is not just that miraculous time-capsule of a theatre, unchanged in essentials since 1766 and still in full working order: the sweep of lakeside lawns where geese may safely graze; the palace's baroque gardens just round the corner; that very special, Magritte-like Nordic light playing on buildings and landscape after the final curtain; not least the welcoming smile of Elisabeth Söderström, chataleina and artistic director these past four years: Drottningholm remains one of the greatest joys known to the operatic beast.

Orphée et Eurydice Drottningholm

The theatre has done well by Gluck's *Orphée*. The original version (1762, Vienna) has been a staple of the repertoire there since the 1770s, with a famous contemporary painting to prove it. Four years ago they did Gluck's first revision (Paris, 1769) for soprano rather than alto castrato, this year the Paris version (1774) for tenor was staged. Staging, of course, varies little: they have the original 18th-century sets and very properly use them, and to have anything other than period costumes would be folly.

Nevertheless, Inger Ahly's production did have its oddities. Overtures are a red rag to directors nowadays, but performance radiate the sheer joy of serious music-making, a far cry from the tired, mechanical accounts that too often characterise the jet-setting circuit. The dress code is relaxed — T-shirts are the preferred attire for performers — and the festival administration includes no fewer than three "sauna officers". Yet this summer saw a profoundly searching performance of Haydn's *Seven Last Words* by the Lindas, a stunningly accomplished interpretation of



In fine voice: Amor (Max Emanuel von Vojnic-Cencic) and Orpheus (Greg Fedderly)

shape of the melody was lost in a reckless hetero-skelet. This was conducting by the book — some book of theory, that is, insufficiently digested — dogmatic, heedless of what the music was composed to do. Not altogether surprising, the orchestra was way below its best form.

In these circumstances, Greg Fedderly's singing of the title role was something of a triumph. He sounded unfazed by lines that he mercilessly fielded a sweet head-voice not, as yet, quite joined to chest tones that he used more generously than an 18th-century *haute-contre* would have done. But he is a musical and graceful performer.

Eva Osterberg (Eurydice) could do little with the speed of her aria (too fast), any more than Max Emanuel von Vojnic-Cencic (Amor) could with his (too slow). He is one of the new generation of male sopranos for whom no apologies need to be made: his sound is astonishingly sweet, secure and fresh. He is not yet at ease on stage, to put it mildly, but should enjoy an eventual career once he is.

RODNEY MILNES

Chilling out and catching the fever

Schoenberg's Third Quartet by the Vellingsers, and an admirable rendering of one of the same composer's Second Quartet by the Vertovs. The soprano soloist in the Vertovs, Claudia Baralinsky, accompanied by Konstantin Bogino, also gave excellent accounts of songs by Webern and Berg. A new Gorecki clarinet quintet failed to materialise, but a single-movement piano quartet by the Finnish composer Seppo Pohjola, commissioned by the festival, impressed by its powerfully

sustained momentum and strongly individual idiom. The great event of Kuhmo is the Saturday night Chamber Music Fever. With occasional breaks to enjoy the crimson sunset over Lake Lamnajarvi, the Fever rages until the early hours, offering a single, concentrated burst of activity. One or two seasoned Kuhmo-watchers wondered aloud whether this year's Fever really caught fire, and whether this reflected a subtle shift of priorities in the administration of the festival. Kuhmo's founder and artistic director, Seppo Kimmunen, assured me that he had no intention of sacrificing the unique "spirit of Kuhmo" for the sake of prestige appearances. We all hope he keeps his word.

BARRY MILLINGTON

LONDON

BBC PROMS 96: Mark Wigglesworth conducts the BBC National Orchestra of Wales in the London premiere of John Rutter's *The Light of the World*. Concerto (colours: Steven Isserlis) Rachmaninov's grand Second Symphony follows after the interval. Albert Hall, Kensington Gate, SW7 (0171-589 5212). Tonight, 7.30pm.

MOSE ALLISON TRO: The Louisiana pianist, composer and singer Mose Allison — renowned for the day, being set of his songs — begins a six-night residency with the usual members of his trio: Paul Clarke, drums, and Roy Babbington, bass. On Saturday, the trio is joined for one night only by the soul-jazz guitarist Jim Mullen. PizzaExpress, Dean Street, W1 (0171-589 5212). Tonight, 7.30pm.

MURDER IN THE CATHEDRAL: Performed in Romania, but to judge by Art Inter's last production seen here, the magnificent Richard II, with the same director and actor (Miles Mander), Marcel Iurek, language will be no bar to a powerful experience. Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404). Opera tonight, 7pm. Then Tue-Sat, 8pm. Until August 10.

ELSEWHERE

BLACKBURN: Martin Leigh conducts the Haydn Chamber Orchestra in their

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Mazzy

annual summer concert in aid of Save the Children and the Blackburn Cathedral Restoration Trust. The evening's programme includes Mendelssohn's *Die Hebriden*, a performance of Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 17 by Martin Roscoe and Blackburn's Pastoral Symphony. Blackburn Cathedral, 101-103 Church Street, Blackburn (01254 582 582). At the school for one night only by the soul-jazz guitarist Jim Mullen.

CHICHESTER: Harriet Walter in the title role of Ibsen's *Hedda Gabler*. Lindy Davis directs a fine cast that includes David Thewlis, Roy Marsden and Nicholas Le Prevost. Minerva Studio, Oldlands Park (01243 781 312). Preview begins tonight, 7.45pm. Opens Aug 6, 7.45pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 2.45pm. Until August 17.

DEAL: The versatile composer and pianist Richard Rodney Bennett, whose eclecticism in music includes classical, jazz and film — he wrote the score to the hit film *Four Weddings and a Funeral* — gives his one-man Summer Music Festival with his one-man

LONDON GALLERIES

British Museum: 20th-century Chinese painting. Tradition and innovation (0171-438 1555).

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ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

Summer Exhibition WHEN ENGLISH ART WAS YOUNG. PETER DENISON. 11 MUSEUMS. S.W. 0171 235 6144

OPERA & BALLET

Glyndebourne Festival Opera. The London Philharmonic. Tuesday 1st Aug 8pm. Friday 2nd Aug 8pm. Saturday 3rd Aug 8pm. Sunday 4th Aug 8pm. Monday 5th Aug 8pm. Tuesday 6th Aug 8pm. Wednesday 7th Aug 8pm. Thursday 8th Aug 8pm. Friday 9th Aug 8pm. Saturday 10th Aug 8pm. Sunday 11th Aug 8pm. Monday 12th Aug 8pm. Tuesday 13th Aug 8pm. Wednesday 14th Aug 8pm. Thursday 15th Aug 8pm. Friday 16th Aug 8pm. Saturday 17th Aug 8pm. Sunday 18th Aug 8pm. Monday 19th Aug 8pm. Tuesday 20th Aug 8pm. Wednesday 21st Aug 8pm. Thursday 22nd Aug 8pm. Friday 23rd Aug 8pm. Saturday 24th Aug 8pm. Sunday 25th Aug 8pm. Monday 26th Aug 8pm. Tuesday 27th Aug 8pm. Wednesday 28th Aug 8pm. Thursday 29th Aug 8pm. Friday 30th Aug 8pm. Saturday 31st Aug 8pm. Sunday 1st Sept 8pm. Monday 2nd Sept 8pm. Tuesday 3rd Sept 8pm. Wednesday 4th Sept 8pm. Thursday 5th Sept 8pm. Friday 6th Sept 8pm. Saturday 7th Sept 8pm. Sunday 8th Sept 8pm. Monday 9th Sept 8pm. Tuesday 10th Sept 8pm. Wednesday 11th Sept 8pm. Thursday 12th Sept 8pm. 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Tel: 0171 680 6806

La Crème de la Crème

Fax: 0171 782 7586

Knight Frank
SECRETARY
WEST END

Knight Frank is a private and independent Partnership of International property consultants who provide a full range of property services to both Commercial and Residential sectors.

A vacancy has arisen for a highly polished, bright, pro-active and experienced secretary/PA to work for a Proprietary Partner.

The position will require excellent administrative and organisational skills and the ability to communicate effectively at a senior level with Regional Partners on a regular basis. A confident manner is equally essential as you will be actively involved in the co-ordination of regional conferences and meetings.

The suitable applicant must have excellent skills (65 wpm, audio, Word for Windows, Excel and PowerPoint), a good sense of humour, a flexible attitude and the ability to cope well under pressure.

In return we offer a competitive salary and benefits package.

To apply, please send a copy of your CV with a covering letter stating your current salary level to: Ms Alex Weatherley, Recruitment Officer, Knight Frank, 20 Hanover Square, London W1R 0AH. Knight Frank are an equal opportunities employer.

Project
Co-ordinator
£16,000 - £17,000

Newchurch & Company is an innovative and respected provider of research and financial and strategic advice to senior managers and policy makers in social businesses, in particular Local and Central Government and the NHS. We employ 43 people and anticipate year on year growth of some 20%.

We currently require a project co-ordinator to provide high level secretarial and administrative support to the consulting staff and directors of our Government group, working primarily in Local Government and Education. You will assist in producing reports and presentations and organise meetings, travel arrangements and diaries. As you will be in regular telephone contact with our customers, you will have confident communication skills. Initiative is also key to this role as you will need to answer queries without reference to managers and be able to prioritise both your own and other people's time.

We are seeking an experienced, enthusiastic and energetic individual, with good organisational and typing skills (50wpm), knowledge of Apple Mac computers and Word, Excel and Power Point applications.

Applications, with full c.v. by 9 August 1996 to: Sue Stocken, Newchurch & Company Limited, 24 Britton Street, London EC1M 5NQ

Working for the future of Sport

The present Sports Council is about to be replaced by two new bodies. One of which, the United Kingdom Sports Council (UKSC), will be responsible for a defined range of functions relating to national and international sports, including doping control, strategic planning, education and training and the development of sporting excellence, which will be needed to prepare UK sports for a future of changing conditions and new challenges.

Unit
Secretary/Administrator

Salary £15,700 - £19,600pa inclusive

The UKSC's International Affairs Unit will be concerned with a wide range of issues and projects of international sport. As Unit Secretary/Administrator you will provide a comprehensive service which calls for experience, confidence and good second European language proficiency, preferably French.

You will be applying your secretarial and admin skills, making appointments and travel arrangements, preparing agendas for meetings and liaising for visits and using your initiative in communicating with a variety of people and participating in many aspects of the Unit's work. An interest in sport, while not essential, would obviously add to the satisfaction.

For further information and an application form, please contact 0171 387 0024 (24 hour answering machine). Alternatively, write to Andrew Talbot, Human Resources Unit, The Sports Council, 16 Upper Woburn Place, London WC1H 0AP. Please quote ref: 084/96. CV's will not be accepted. Closing date: 16 August. Shortlisted applicants will be contacted within 4 weeks of the closing date.

A CHANCE TO USE YOUR SKILLS
AT THE LEADING EDGESenior Secretary - Technical Services
c.£15,000

SABRE is the world's most advanced computerised reservations system for travel agents. As part of the AMR and American Airlines group of companies, we have an international reputation for delivering product performance and customer service which has won us consistent growth - and an even brighter future.

We now have an opportunity for an experienced, senior level Secretary to join us at our Hounslow offices, working for the Director of Technical Services. If you want more responsibility, new challenges and a faster pace to add spice to your career, this is your ideal chance.

This is a key role which demands highly professional communication and organisational skills, initiative and quick thinking. We are looking for first rate secretarial skills and good PC literacy. Experience of using spreadsheets and Word for Windows is essential. Knowledge of Powerpoint and Excel would give you an extra advantage.

In return, we offer a competitive salary package, which includes AA airline benefits and the career prospects you could only find with a truly global organisation.

To apply please send your CV, quoting reference ST'S, to Personnel Department, SABRE Europe Management Services Ltd, MD12, 23-59 Staines Road, Hounslow, Middlesex TW3 3HE.



Director's Secretary

Excellent salary and benefits available depending on relevant experience.

Working for a busy, private Holding Company at their small Mayfair Office, you will have a very varied workload, including certain personal work. You must be able to operate under pressure, while retaining a good telephone manner and a cheerful disposition. Exposure to a financial environment would be useful but not essential.

Skills 100/60.

Please send CV with covering letter, including your current salary expectations to: Helen Blease, 14 Chesterfield Street, London W1X 7HF

PERSONAL ASSISTANT
c.£20,000 pa + benefits
Wandsworth Common SW18
PHARMACEUTICAL
CONSULTANCY

Our consultancy advises US-based clients on European product development. As the Managing Director's P.A. already experienced at senior level (poss. consultancy background), you must be Mac literate, have sound knowledge of Word 6, Filemaker Pro, Excel, Powerpoint and 60 wpm typing. Educated to at least 'A' level or equivalent, ability to work on own initiative and manage office systems. Hard-working, informal environment with opportunities for development for a strong, confident personality. Non-smoker. Send CV with letter to GAEA PHARMA GROUP, 52 WESTOVER ROAD, LONDON SW18 2RH or fax 0181 875 1137.

MATURE SECRETARY
to £20,000

Multinational Mayfair based company whose worldwide operations span a variety of business activities including investments, Real Estate, Transport, industry & Distribution is looking for a socially confident, mature Shorthand Secretary to work alongside the Chairman's Executive Assistant. Whilst this is predominantly a 9-5 job, the need for flexibility is essential. The position encompasses sole responsibility for several interesting projects and the office accommodation is luxurious to say the least!

Susan Doughty Recruitment, 39A Carzon Street, London W1Y 7RF. Tel: 0171-491 7911 Fax: 0171 491 7922

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY/P.A.

Required for Executive Directors of large broking house in the City. At least 7/10 years secretarial experience, preferably at Director level. Minimum 100 w.p.m. shorthand 60 typing. Audio an advantage but not essential. Candidates should be able to cope under pressure, be presentable, flexible and adaptable and have a pleasant telephone manner. Windows/Excel packages. Non smoker preferred. Around 35/40 years of age. Salary circa £20,000-£23,000 p.a.

Please Reply to Box No 7821

Property PA/Office manager
Mayfair £19,000

Looking for a one to one role? Do you like working for small Co? Do you have fast shorthand and are computer literate? Our young dynamic client seeks a Property PA who will be involved in his project work. The company designs and finances property developments. This is a very varied role and is immediately available.

Call Carousell on 0171 734 7277 or Fax on 0171 734 7278.

SECRETARY

Salary up to £18,000 plus benefits. Excellent opportunity to join dynamic insurance brokers as Secretary to Director and be part of a young team in a key department. We are seeking an enthusiastic candidate and can offer opportunities for career development.

Skills required are good typing speed, sound shorthand and audio, WPM, Powerpoint and XL. Higher level academic qualifications will be an advantage. Please write enclosing your CV to: Helen Bishop Lloyd Thompson, Limited, 15 St. Bonifacio Street, London EC1R 2LT.

Famous Film Co. urgently

requires P.A. to Head of Legal and Business Affairs. Busy & involved role. Legal experience essential. 50 wpm WP required. Suit corporate P.A./Sec.

£18,000 + BONUS + BENES. C.F. Ag 0171 395 1362



AUDIT OFFICER

£15,103 - £17,928 pa inc

This is a new post in a section which has a dual role, providing clerical and information support to Medical, Nursing and Operational audit throughout the hospital and assisting in the development and monitoring of quality standards.

Ideally you should have experience of servicing Committees, recording minutes and compiling agendas.

You may be involved with the development of performance indicators for all areas within the hospital, which would entail participating in evaluative research connected with service developments and quality assurance.

This is a varied post involving close liaison with senior staff. Previous NHS experience would be an advantage. Knowledge of word processing, database and spreadsheet packages is essential.

For an application form and job description please contact the Personnel Department, City Road, London, EC1V 2PD on 0171 253 3411 ext. 2433.

Closing date for receipt of application forms: 16th August 1996.

Working Towards Equality of Opportunity

Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Trust

PA TO PARTNER

Our London-based international Partner is looking for an experienced PA to assist him in developing an international construction consultancy business.

The position requires excellent organisational and communication skills and the ability to work effectively both independently and within a team.

The successful candidate is unlikely to be under 25 and will be required to demonstrate flexibility and commitment.

Ideally you should have experience in AmPro, Freelance and Shorthand (cross training available for right candidate).

Salary negotiable

Please reply with full career details and salary expectations to Mrs Julie Pollock, Turner & Townsend, Construction Consultants, 10 Bedford St, London WC2E 9HE. No agencies

Regular Hours
Forget Huge Overtime
Shorthand Secretaries
£18k + Excellent Benefits

Pan European has a whole range of clients who are looking to recruit good shorthand secretaries who are happy working in a busy environment, but who also need enough time to have a life outside work. We offer involvement, variety, career progression and a social life can be yours.

Secretaries
All Industries

£15k - £17k + Exceptional Benefits

Can't make your mind up regarding which industry you want to work in? No problem, if you have formal secretarial training, typing at 50wpm and knowledge of Word for Windows, with Excel and Powerpoint being advantageous - Call now to find out what golden opportunities await you.

BANKING

We have been retained by a major City institution and currently have a number of roles offering excellent benefits, plenty of scope and career prospects. If you have a steady financial background, good Secretarial skills and are aged 18 to 35 call our City specialists for an immediate interview. These are just a few of our current City vacancies.

- Corporate Finance Utilities £19k
- Client Services £22k
- Training Department £18k

Temp to Perms

- Media & Telecom/Fluent German £21k
- Business Development/ Figures & Budget Exp. £20k
- UK Group/2-5 yrs exp at Dir level £20k

Call now for an interview in the City or West End.

TEMPING

HIGHLY COMPETITIVE RATES

For first class long and short term assignments, including temp to perm situations, Pan European should be your first port of call.

IMMEDIATE SHORTHAND ASSIGNMENTS
(Min 90 wpm)

- Team Secretary (Personnel) Indefinite
- Director's Secretary (Leisure) 6 weeks
- PA/Secretary (Building Society) 4 weeks

IMMEDIATE AUDIO ASSIGNMENTS
(Min 60 wpm)

- IT Secretary (Banking) 6 weeks
- P/T P/A Office Manager (Finance) Indefinite
- Team Secretary (Management Cons.) 4 weeks

If you have good shorthand/audio skills, are aged between 20-40 and have working knowledge of Windows packages:-

FOR CITY AND WEST END INTERVIEWS

call 0171 734 8484

or Fax us on 0171 734 8501

Executive
Secretary

Director needs P.A. for day-to-day running of property developments, investments, financial affairs, a small charity or other business affairs. Office in a converted 17th century barn in Chiswick. Graduate or equiv. 25-34, shorthand, computer lit. Financial/accounting skills. CV experience at senior level in a major firm essential. Approx 3 day week c.£15,000.

Please Fax 01931 873333

Use your creative flair!
£18,000 + O.T. + Exc Bens

Leading international company is seeking a DTP secretary to provide proactive administrative support to a lively team and prepare presentations and corporate literature using Pagemaker and Freelance or Powerpoint. If you have an unflappable approach to your work, a great sense of humour, sound knowledge of Word for Windows and Excel and 60wpm typing, please call Maggie on 0171 437 6032 to arrange an immediate interview.

P.A.
MARKET RESEARCH COMPANY
WEST END
£18,000

Proactive & dynamic personal secretary required to organise a busy M.D. & his team.

Excellent typing skills are essential, as is knowledge of word for windows 6 & intermediate/advanced knowledge of powerpoint. Other duties include managing diaries, hotel & travel arrangements and ensuring good communication with clients at all times.

Some interest in, & experience of, computer network supervision would also be useful.

Please send covering letter & CV to our Personal Manager, Debra Watson, c/o The DNV Partnership The Lodge, The Marine Drive, Llandudno, Gwynedd, LL57 7TQ.

MEDIA RECRUITMENT
CONSULTANTS

London's leading independent media recruitment consultancy requires two very special individuals to join their friendly and professional team of consultants. A sales/marketing background and a mature attitude are essential, together with the ability to work in a hectic, pressurised environment. The roles are challenging and rewarding and no two days are the same. Attractive salary.

If you are interested please call us:

JUDY FISHER
ASSOCIATES
Tel: 0171-437 2277
or Fax: 0171-434 2969
Recruitment Consultants

West London
to £26,000

This market leading international telecommunications company has an exciting opportunity for someone wanting a challenging and demanding role in a progressive company. Working within marketing you'll act as a lynchpin, organise all the marketing activities and play a key role in the department. You'll need to have had an involved role in the past, preferably within marketing, and have one additional language together with an enthusiastic approach. Word, Powerpoint and Excel useful and 40wpm typing minimum a must.

Call Caroline Galan on 0171 437 6032.

CHAMPAGNE CHARLIE
£18000 S.W.1.

Delightful director of long-established vintage champagne/wine distributors urgently needs a poised P.A. You'll arrange social events and conferences, run the office and his life. It's hectic at times, so hectic, fast and your canny sense of humour will be appreciated. So will your SH. Age 22 - 28.

JIGSAW
RECRUITMENTPA to Sales Director
Broadcasting Company, Centre Point
£18K with excellent benefits

We are looking for an unflappable PA with bags of initiative, impeccable skills and presentation with reasonable shorthand to co-ordinate this fast moving, friendly sales department in bright offices based at the top of Centre Point.

The ideal candidate will have a mature outlook and have worked in a busy sales/media environment with thorough knowledge of MS Office/Powerpoint.

Please send CV to Cathy Myers, Metro Networks (UK) Limited, 29th Floor, Centre Point, London WC1A 1DD.

No Agencies

Exceptional PA!
Excellent Salary + Benefits

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a PA to the Chief Executive Officer of a major international corporation based in the West End. In addition to your solid secretarial skills, you will either have experience of working within a Japanese company at senior level and/or have the ability to converse in Japanese. This is a high profile role where you will have to interface with international clients at the highest level and ensure that the company's impeccable standards are maintained in everything that you do. In return you will be generously rewarded and work in a superb environment.

Phone Sharon Hawkins on 0171 437 6032.

Excellent
Pay
Holiday
Pay
Full
Benefits
Package

We currently require experienced secretaries with 60wpm for a variety of temporary opportunities within this prestigious international organisation.

- Do you have?
- Minimum of 2 years' secretarial experience
- Excellent W4W skills
- Banking experience.

For more information please call Clare Hannaby on 0171 488 2880.

MANPOWER
There's more for you

SECRETARY/PA
FOR MD OF INTERNATIONAL FIRM OF ARCHITECTS
AND PLANNERS IN WC1

Excellent organisational abilities, accurate shorthand skills and previous personality are qualities essential for this appointment. Varied and demanding workload in friendly office environment. Ambitious knowledge preferred.

Salary £18,000 - £20,000 depending on experience. Box No 7854

OFFICE ASSISTANT
Office Assistant Circa £11,000
Plus Company Benefits

An opportunity has arisen in the Operations Department of The Times Supplements for an Office Assistant. The work will be varied as you will be required to provide assistance and cover for the Circulation and Subscriptions positions as well as for the Finance Director's Secretary.

The ideal applicant should have basic secretarial skills, a good telephone manner, a keen eye for figures and a flexible, cheerful approach. Please send CV to: Mr A J Evans, Finance and Operations Director, The Times Supplements, Admiral House, 66-68 East Smithfield, London, E1 9XY before 9 August 1996.

MEDIA PA
W1 £18,000

Successful Media Co offers true PA role, working for newly appointed Head of Business Sales. Lots of presentation work + promotion prospects. MS Office + senior sec exp ess. Please call Wendy on 0171 636 1493

BEAVERS
Personnel Recruitment Consultants

PA TO FINANCE
DIRECTOR
£15-£18,000 p.a.

Overworked & stressed the Dir of dynamic & expanding media company seeks efficient PA to organise and make with his daily routine. Would suit highly motivated PA, ideally with financial/legal background. Must have RSA Stage 111 Typing (min 60wpm), min 60 wpm SH (not req).

Please send hand-written letter (quoting above ref) with CV to: Ruth Saperhorn, Link Licensing Ltd, 7 Dorset's Gate, 33-35 Rothchild Road, E2 8HWK W4 SH.

EDITORIAL
SECRETARY

wanted by research institute in Westminster. Up-to-date word-processing skills and experience of publishing desirable. Apply by letter and cv, mentioning your expected salary, to: Professor Colin Robinson, Editorial Director, The Institute of Economic Affairs, 2 Lord North Street, London SW1P 3LB.

PA/SECRETARY
£18,500 + Bonus

Excellent opportunity to join prestigious sporting authority. This is an exciting and varied role working for the chair executive. You will need excellent organisational skills, audio & a sense, shorthand or spreadsheeting an advantage.

Ask for Bernice or Louise RECRUIT PLC Tel 0171 499 8112 Fax 0171 499 8115

PA/SECRETARIES
EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES
WITH BUPA

c.£17500 plus excellent benefits BUPA has a number of interesting and demanding vacancies for first-class Secretaries to work in its Marketing, Operations and Legal departments.

To succeed, you will possess excellent communication and presentation skills. You will also be a superb organiser able to co-ordinate various tasks efficiently and effectively. Knowledge of Windows, Excel and Audio is essential. Shorthand skills would be useful.

To find out more call Caroline Drew on 0171 589 1866 today

THE ST. JAMES'S CONSULTANCY

nextstep recruitment consultants

PA Secretary - M.D 17-18K + Exc. bens

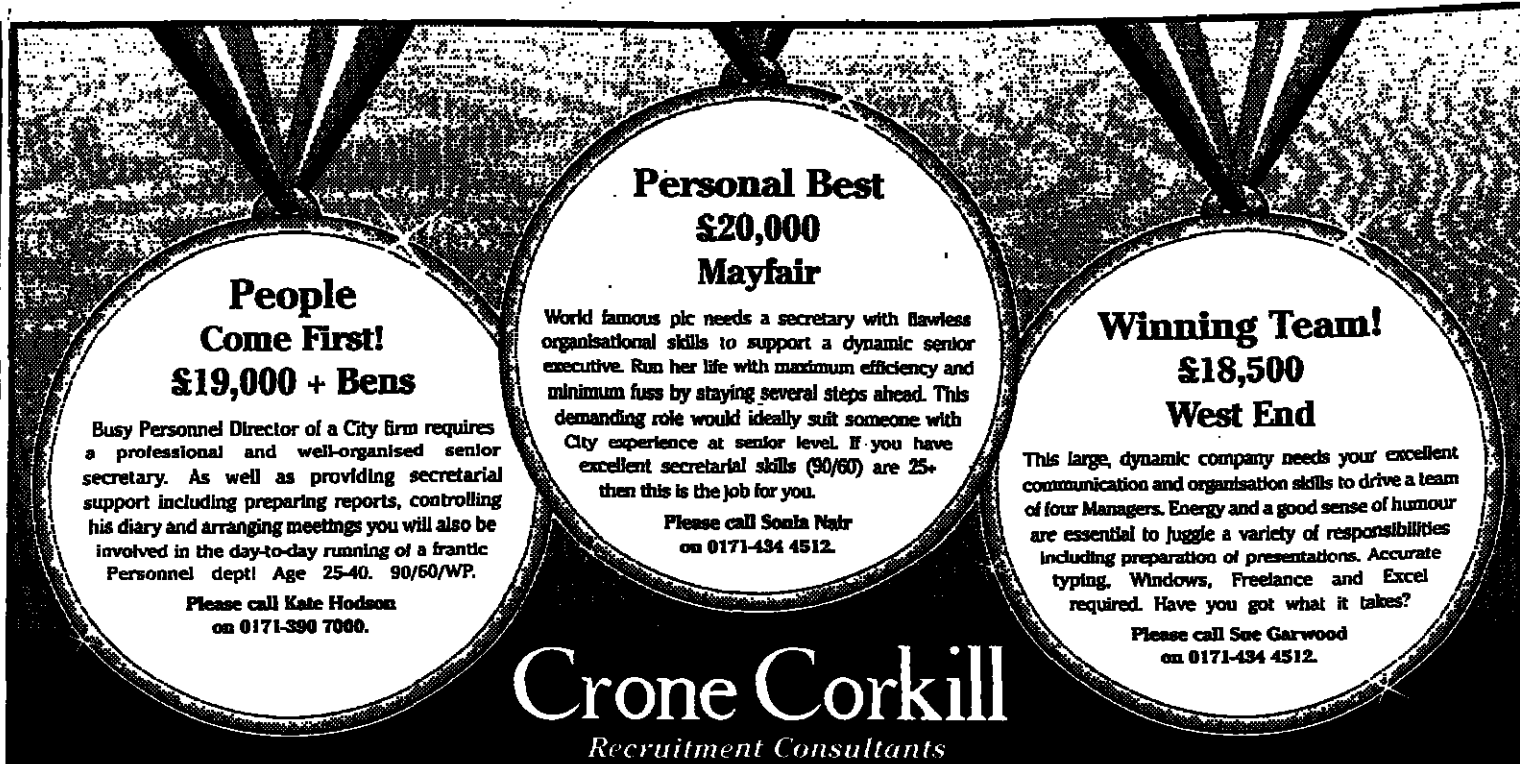
Proactive 1st Co in Mayfair reqs a committed team player with 50wpm, SH & W4W, 3 wks hols p.a.

Receptionist & Secretaries - 13-18K

Exclusive Property Co in Mayfair are seeking personnel for the above positions. 50 wpm+ & exc presentation reqd. 13, Coopers Row, London EC2N 2BQ. Tel No 0171 680 1001

La Crème de la Crème

Fax: 0171 782 7586



PA - PERSONNEL
\$23,000 + Full bank pkg
 Total right hand man to the head of Personnel at a major city investment bank (EC4). High level of responsibility for a level headed, career Sec with total dedication. S/Hand useful. A challenging career move. Call Emily Aldrich.
Fax: 0171 588 8998

MOSCOW T
TO £21,000
If you have an interest in these countries and the then read on! An e

WARSAW

+ MS + BENS

Best in liaising with
European Union ...
Excellent opportunity

Travelling PA
£23,000 +

There is definitely a role for a PA with no ties as you will be expected to travel sometimes for up to four weeks at a time. When in London some of your evenings will also be taken up dining out & entertaining clients. For the most part you will be based at the Chairman's London home, he is a delightful man. If you know what it takes please call.

**0171
493 2888**

to co-ordinate an effective
Duties will include
telephone liaison and
Please contact
Jonathan Wynn
No.1 New Street,
Tel: 0171 623 1266

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THE TIMES

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RECEPTIONIST

EDITORIAL SECRETARY

COSMETIC

JIGS W RECRUITMENT

Tel: 0171 680 6806

La Crème de la Crème

Fax: 0171 782 7586

BANKING
£25,000 Package

Prestigious international bank is offering temporary and permanent positions for experienced secretaries with good organisational skills. Busy roles offering lots of variety. Paid off, bonus, gym and restaurant. 60wpm typing and Word for Windows essential. Languages useful. Please telephone 0171 495 2321.

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

VICTORIA
£20,000

plus pension, LV's, IFSTL, health club and superb offices near St James' Park. This friendly and sociable property company need a senior team secretary in their marketing department. Suit confident communicator with good Windows knowledge including graphics. 60wpm typing and audio. Please telephone 0171 495 2321.

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PARTNER'S PA
£20,000

Large company of young professionals based off Oxford Street need a PA/Secretary for a senior partner. Lots of client contact and organising. Suit team spirited person with initiative and a good phone manner. 80 shorthand, audio and 60wpm typing. Good WP skills essential. Please telephone 0171 495 2321.

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

BOARD LEVEL
£20,000

As PA/Secretary to this MD with global responsibilities, you will be based in a truly sumptuous environment on the executive floor. Extensive international involvement and excellent benefits including on site gym and restaurant. Speeds 90/60. Please telephone 0171 628 9529.

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

CAREER MOVE
£19,000

See your own projects through from beginning to end when you join this legal department. Ambition is encouraged and you could take professional qualifications which could lead on to a new future career. 60wpm, audio and WFW essential. Please telephone 0171 628 9529.

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

ROADSHOW COORDINATOR**£23,000 + Bonus + Banking Benefits**

Upon accepting this available position in a prominent investment bank you will be immediately responsible for a number of roadshows within Europe. Working as part of a team in Equity Capital Markets, your organisational skills will be tested to the limit. You will coordinate itineraries, book European venues and coordinate travel arrangements for the travelling party. You will need to be an able communicator who can liaise effectively with the equity salesforce in London and across Europe. The challenge of long hours on a consistent basis will test your stamina and endurance but will bring lucrative results. Roadshow experience in a banking environment is essential to this role and a sense of humour will be a definite asset.

Angela Mortimer is an equal opportunities employer. All applicants are positively welcomed.

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Angela Mortimer

ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH**£21,000 + Banking Benefits**

Canadian Mounties have a reputation for excellence shared by their counterparts who enjoy high standards for high finance. You will work as PA to two senior Vice Presidents in the rockworking arm of this highly respected Canadian Bank with an extensive international network. Wholly responsible for the smooth running of their business lives, you will co-ordinate complex diaries and travel schedules as well as coordinating interest administrative systems.

Your tact and diplomacy will enable you to prioritise a heavy workload whilst your discretion is a key attribute in such a confidential environment.

You will have worked at a senior level in a financial environment and will have proven successful skills of at least 60 wpm and a thorough knowledge of a Windows based package. This position is also available on a temp to perm basis.

Angela Mortimer is an equal opportunities employer. All applicants are positively welcomed.

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Angela Mortimer

WALL STREET**£23,000 + Benefits****Immediate Start Preferred**

Our client, a prestigious American Investment Bank has a number of T-T positions available in the fast moving areas of Mergers and Acquisitions, Corporate Finance and Sales and Trading.

You will have gained a breadth of corporate or banking experience. Your professional skills and ability to meet deadlines will allow you to thrive in these exciting and stimulating environments.

You will have excellent secretarial skills, a flexible, team driven approach to your work with the ability to work one to one. If you have a good knowledge of Microsoft Office, 50 wpm and perfectly shorthand, call now.

Angela Mortimer is an equal opportunities employer. All applicants are positively welcomed.

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French Opportunities**APPOINTMENTS Bi-LANGUAGE****FLUENT FRENCH**

Our client, a major international organisation, is looking for a 'second jobber'. Ideally postgraduate, PA or work for the day. Use your French daily, plenty of organising & liaison. It's not much typing. A graduate with 2 years exp would be ideal. English must be mother tongue. 50 wpm typing, 110,000+ benefits. Regular hours (9-5).

Angela Mortimer is an equal opportunities employer. All applicants are positively welcomed.

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FRENCH BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

This world leading international company is looking for a French speaking PA for their Personal Director - full time/week support & extensive liaison with internal clients. Based in gorgeous office (converted manor), may access to P40 & P25 (car driver essential) Fast typing & 50wpm (or for secretarial) needed.

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ANY 2 EUROPEAN LANGUAGES SECRETARY

Exciting opportunity to work within European Planning division of prestigious international client. Co-ordinating schedules for management team, and acting as a linchpin for all contact with clients and offices worldwide. Self motivated or equivalent with 1 yr exp/typable exp. 50 wpm typing & computer literacy. English mother-tongue & 2 other lang needed.

3 Prince Street, London W1R 7BA
Tel: 0171 734 3389/0171 355 1975
Fax: 0171 499 0548

FRANCOPHILES

FRENCH BOND PA £20000 + BENEFITS
Our client, a major international organisation, is looking for a French speaking PA for their Personal Director - full time/week support & extensive liaison with internal clients. Based in gorgeous office (converted manor), may access to P40 & P25 (car driver essential) Fast typing & 50wpm (or for secretarial) needed.

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THREE SECRETARIES**£20,000 + Superb Benefits**

This leading City Asset Managers are seeking native secretaries, ideally aged in their 20's, to provide full PA support to senior professionals within Marketing, Property and Fund Management. You will have confidence, initiative and first class co-ordination skills together with the energy and commitment to make your mark within these demanding front line roles.

Angela Mortimer is an equal opportunities employer. All applicants are positively welcomed.

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Angela Mortimer

1ST/2ND JOBBER SECS**See Excellent + Fantastic Benefits**

Several superb opportunities exist for enthusiastic and adaptable secretaries to join leading City based Asset Managers and Trading Co's. Sound education, typing 60wpm, shorthand preferred and knowledge of MS Office systems essential.

Angela Mortimer is an equal opportunities employer. All applicants are positively welcomed.

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MISON RECRUITMENT

Well spoken graduates required for varied PA/secretarial positions with leading financial institutions in the City. No experience required but Word for Windows essential. Initiative and willingness to work hard are essential.

14K + excellent prospects.

IMMEDIATE START.

Please call 0171 501 3007

SECRETARY**£18,000**

Angela Mortimer is an equal opportunities employer. All applicants are positively welcomed.

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EXECUTIVE SHORTHAND PA'S**£19,000 + BENEFITS**

Whether you are interested in Public Affairs, Property or Communications, we are able to offer several vacancies at Senior level. All positions require a confident personality and excellent shorthand skills and professional experience at a similar level.

Call for more details on 0171 579 5213 or 0171 501 3007

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RECEPTIONIST/ASSISTANT**£15,000 + BENEFITS**

Any highly efficient person with bright young attitude to help run small successful international business. Good telephone manner and flexible approach required. Must be able to work on own initiative and deal with clients on a confidential basis. WPM essential. Excel/Word/Office essential.

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Angela Mortimer

TELEVISION**£25,000**

We are looking for an exceptional PA with television experience to support the creative director in a major production company. You must be highly motivated, a brilliant organiser, able to coordinate a team and have the strength to cope with the pressures within this fast-moving world. Age 30-35. Skills - fast typing.

Angela Mortimer is an equal opportunities employer. All applicants are positively welcomed.

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DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES**£20,000 + BENEFITS**

Angela Mortimer is an equal opportunities employer. All applicants are positively welcomed.

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PA HAMMERSMITH - 20K plus paid travel and

benefits. Excellent shorthand/typing skills and knowledge of Word for Windows, Powerpoint and Excel. Good opportunity for a true PA, requiring initiative, imagination and enthusiasm.

PA TO 2 MD'S, NW1 - £20,000 p.a. Small friendly office req's real right hand person to man office and provide full PA support. Rusty SH and prev PA exp ess. Age 28-35.

Call Wendy, Miriam or Anna on 0171 420 8008.

RECEPTIONIST/ASSISTANT**£15,000 + BENEFITS**

Any highly efficient person with bright young attitude to help run small successful international business. Good telephone manner and flexible approach required. Must be able to work on own initiative and deal with clients on a confidential basis. WPM essential. Excel/Word/Office essential.

CRICKET: SUSSEX'S NATWEST TROPHY CHALLENGE ENDS AT QUARTER-FINAL STAGE

Jaunty Yorkshire settle an old score

BY ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

HOVE (Sussex won toss): Yorkshire beat Sussex by five wickets

ONE-DAY cricket was in the cradle when Yorkshire last visited Hove in this competition. Pinch-hitters and sliding stops were as unknown as helmets, perimeter advertising and designer sunglasses when 10,000 were shoehorned in to see Brian Close's side, the supreme power of the 1960s, beaten by 22 runs. Thirty-three years is a long time to wait for revenge but, for those who still remembered, it came in full measure yesterday.

SCOREBOARD

SUSSEX	
C W J Athey c Gough b White	54
J W Hall b Stump	38
M P Speight b White	3
A P Wells b Gough	10
K Greenfield b Gough	10
H Moxon run out	6
D R Llewellyn c Silverwood b Stump	10
D R Llewellyn b Stump	0
V C Drakes c Blaney b Hartley	35
P W Jarvis not out	34
J D Lewis not out	3
Extras (lb 4, w 8, nb 6)	18
Total (8 wickets, 60 overs)	212
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-85, 2-102, 3-111, 4-130, 5-131, 6-136, 7-138, 8-139, 9-195	
BOWLING: Gough 12-2-34-2; Silverwood 12-1-42-0; Hartley 12-2-47-2; White 12-0-42-2; Stump 12-0-43-2	

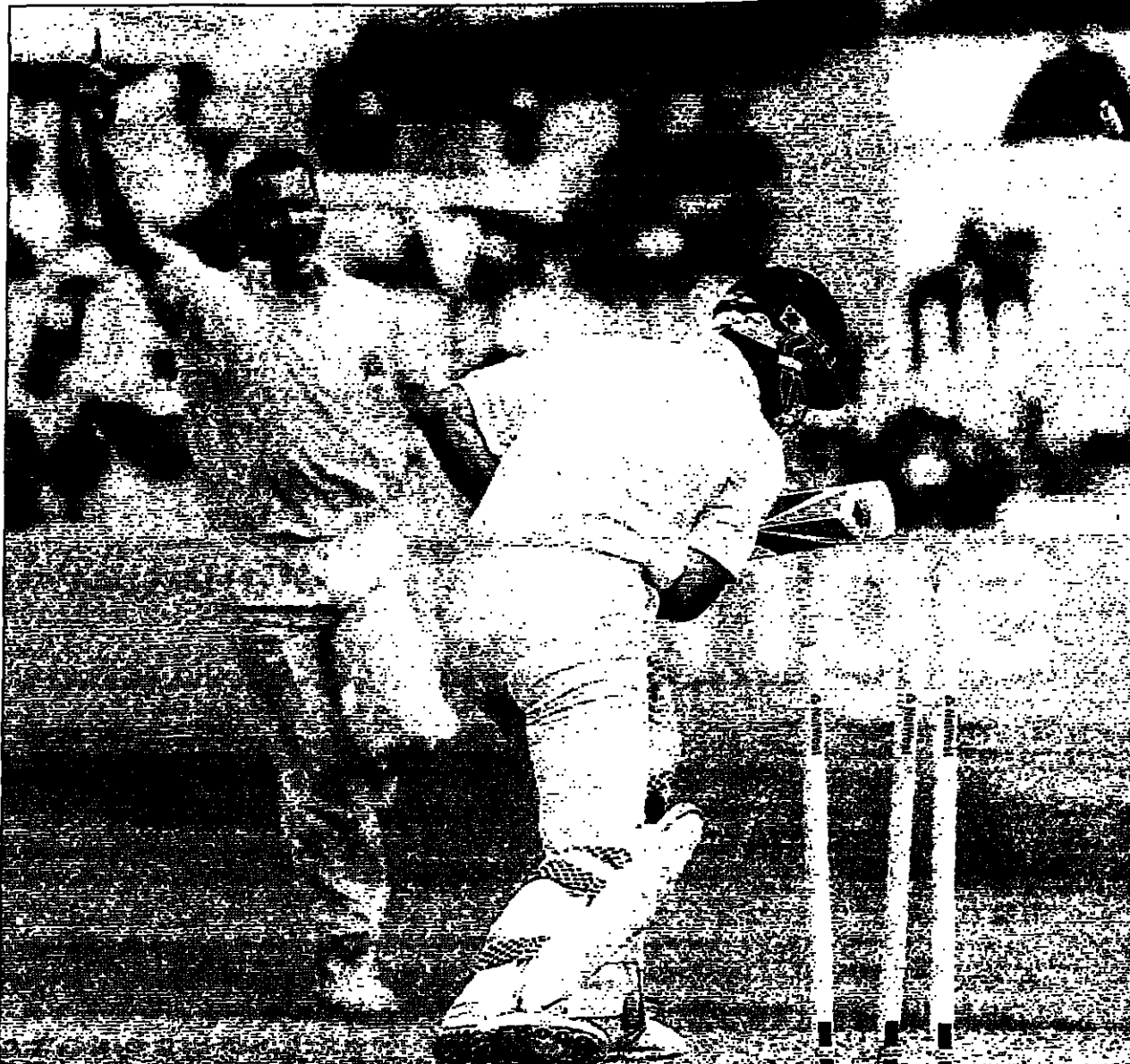
YORKSHIRE	
M D Moxon c Moxon b Drakes	76
M P Vaughan c Moxon b Drakes	52
D R Llewellyn b Drakes	27
M G Bevan run out	27
A McGrath c Salisbury b Drakes	5
C White not out	5
R J Blaney not out	15
Extras (lb 4, w 5, nb 8)	17
Total (5 wickets, 47.3 overs)	215
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-115, 3-156, 4-170, 5-176	
BOWLING: Lewis 12-0-42-1; Drakes 8-0-48-2; Jarvis 6-0-31-0; Law 8-1-50-0; Salisbury 12-1-33-1; Greenfield 1-0-7-0	
Man-of-the-match: D Gough	
Umpires: J W Holder and A G T Whitehead	

High Court, still applies. Boycott was here yesterday to commemorate the class of '96 took one more step out of the shadow of his own generation. This is a confident, rounded side, aspiring to great deeds. Third in both the county championship and the Sunday League, Yorkshire are now one game away from only their third final in the premier one-day event. Back in 1963, when it was quaintly called "The Knockout Competition", Sussex went on to win it and those who saw the belated rematch will be inclined to believe that Yorkshire can do the same.

The modern Hove capacity of 5,000 was fully tested and many spectators were unable to find seats on a morning so hazy and amenable to swing that Alan Wells's decision to bat first was curious, given Sussex's bowling strength. It did not immediately backfire, for the intransigent Athey and Hall shared an opening stand of 85, but it occupied almost half the innings and the subsequent batting accurately imitated England's collapse at Lord's.

A target of 213 never seemed likely to extend Yorkshire and although they stumbled after tea, when Lewis and Salisbury bowled immaculately, they were home with 123 overs to spare. It is the first time they have reached the semi-finals of both the Benson and Hedges and NatWest competitions in the same season and, after the agonising way they lost the first of them to Lancashire off the last ball, they deserve a day in the sun.

Their success this summer is due in significant measure to being able to field a settled side. Gough and Silverwood have developed together as a new ball pair and they were an exacting proposition here. Athey, peering from behind his spectacles as Boycott himself once did, adopted an over-mindful attitude to his native county and it was 18 overs before he struck his first boundary.



Speight surveys the wreckage of his stumps after driving over-ambitiously at an inswinger from White

The openers had begun to accelerate when they were divided as Hall missed a sweep against Stump, who has now added a goatee beard to his fashion accessories. Speight, whose only half-century in 17 NatWest games was that memorable frolic in the 1993 final, was then bowled driving loosely at White and, crucially, Athey drove the same bowler to mid-on, where Gough took a one-handed

overhead catch. Sussex required substantial retrenchment after lunch but Gough made it impossible.

His eighth over contained the wickets of Greenfield and Wells, at which point he boasted figures of two for 17 and the strut of a man playing cricket that really demands an England recall. Oddly enough, if it is deemed that spin is dispensable at Headingley, it may come at

the expense of Salisbury, who was now promoted in the Sussex order only to fall immediately to Stump.

Soon, Sussex were 139 for eight, five wickets having been blown away for nine runs in six overs. Drakes and Jarvis dragged the score to respectability with a ninth-wicket stand of 56 but Sussex were 50 runs short of par on this good pitch and even the early loss of Vaughan did not check York-

shire's stride. Moxon and Byas, driving attractively, added 99 in 20 overs before Salisbury gained deserved reward and the withdrawal of their second Yorkshire exile, Jarvis, with an ankle injury only accentuated Sussex's woes.

Victory was in sight when Yorkshire lost three wickets for 20, including Moxon for a fluent 76, but it was a delay rather than an alarm.

RUGBY UNION

England call off gala games with Wales

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

ANGLO-WELSH relationships at the highest level have been growing increasingly frigid and now, by coincidence, England's two leading clubs have withdrawn from the gala meetings with their Welsh opposite number on August 31 and September.

The English Professional Rugby Union Clubs (EPRUC) have informed the Welsh Rugby Union that the game between Bath and Neath at Twickenham, and the 24 hours later at Cardiff between Pontypridd and Leicester, cannot go ahead because of the disruption this will have on the start of the English league season.

However, EPRUC officials insist this will have no impact on the inaugural Anglo-Welsh league, in which Leicester and Pontypridd are due to meet anyway on September 10.

"We still think it's a great idea for the champions of each country to meet at the start of the season, but time has become a bit short," Peter Wheeler, the Leicester chief executive, said. No sponsor had been found for the games and neither Saracens nor Orrell, who were due to play Leicester and Bath, respectively, on August 31, were happy to have the start of their season disrupted.

Meanwhile, England's threatened suspension from the five nations' championship, after their controversial broadcasting agreement with satellite television, will be discussed by the Rugby Football Union's (RFU) executive committee in London today, following the fruitless five nations' meeting in Cardiff last week. The ugly prospect of legal action hangs over the RFU, given the considerable third-party interests — those of debenture holders, tour operators, catering contractors for example — which are dependent on the 1997 five nations' programme.

London Irish have announced a new three-year sponsorship agreement with the Guinness brewing firm worth up to £1 million.

IN BRIEF

Landmark victory for British driver

RICHARD BURNS, who won the British championship in 1993 at the age of 22, secured his first victory in an important international motor rally when he won the Rally of New Zealand yesterday.

Burns, the sole representative of the Mitsubishi works team after Tommi Makinen's crash on Sunday, held on to his lead during the last six stages to finish ahead of the Subaru factory drivers, Kenneth Eriksson and Piero Liani.

Bigger pool

Basketball: Sheffield Sharks, who did the league and cup double in 1995, are moving from Ponds Forge Arena to play in the 12,000-capacity Sheffield Arena next season under the sponsorship of Lego UK. The toy manufacturers announced a one-year sponsorship deal yesterday with an option for a further year.

McCall arrested

Boxing: American heavyweight Oliver McCall was arrested over the weekend for allegedly being in possession of drugs. This is the second time in four months that he has been charged with a drugs offence and he could be ruled out of his World Boxing Council title fight with Lennox Lewis in September.

Young leader

Golf: Seven Raybould, 20, from Pontypridd, upstaged his seniors with a round of 71 to take the lead in the first qualifying round of the Welsh amateur championship at Ashburham yesterday. Raybould is a stroke ahead of Chris Rys, a former holder, Jestyn Taylor, a member of the Great Britain and Ireland squad and teenager Mark Pilkington, from Nefyn.

Los locos win

Polo: The Cowdray Park club's Godwood week matches continued at Ambersham yesterday with Harrison Cup challenge contests in which Los Locos beat Lambourne 12-8 and Frieze H got the better of Caltrio by 8-7.

GOLF

Veteran Banks puts youth in its place

BY PATRICIA DAVIES

AT THE age of 41, Charlie Banks is greying and fatherhood is imminent, but he is still the sort of steady golfer capable of upsetting young lions with international ambitions. Yesterday, in the first round of the 66th English Amateur Championship at the Notts Golf Club, Hollinwell, that is just what he did to Matt Carver, 22, from West Kent, beating him 2 and 1.

Banks, a Nottinghamshire man, won the Brabazon Trophy here in 1983 and such experience was not what Carver, the winner of the Lytham Trophy this year, needed. He was hampered by a bad back and had seriously considered pulling out of the event. Melinda Colless, his girlfriend and caddy, thought he should, but Carver persevered.

An Australian turned Englishman — his father is English, but Carver was born in Melbourne — he did not want to offend the powers that be. Also, he had gone round in 66 in practice on Sunday, finishing birdie, eagle, birdie.

"I was absolutely ready," he said.

Yet his back, his putting and Banks decreed otherwise. Three up with three to play, Banks forsook the crafty play of middle age and had to concede the hole after driving into the trees at the 16th, but he holed from six feet for a birdie four at the 17th, after Carver had missed an eagle chance from 15 feet.

Two Midlanders battled longer and harder than most to reach the second round. Chris Poxon, a semi-finalist two years ago, went over on his ankle at the 14th, but limped home against Sam Jarman, the runner-up last year, at the 22nd hole. Matthew Cryer, of Coventry, needed seven extra holes before Neil Self, of Stand, stood down with three putts at the 25th.

It was Justin Rose's sixteenth birthday yesterday and the lean, lanky youngster from North Hants reached the second round with a 4 and 3 victory over Nick Isherwood, of Beau Desert.

Law enjoys seaside return

BY SIMON WILDE

SOUTHAMPTON (Essex won toss): Essex beat Hampshire by 100 runs

STUART LAW'S young career has been too successful for him to know many bad parts of call but he has a special liking for the County Ground, Southampton.

He showed his affection for it again yesterday with a magnificent 107 from 81 balls. His fourth century in five innings there — that was the decisive factor in what became the simplest of passages for Essex into the semi-finals of the NatWest Trophy. Law hit three sixes and nine fours, reaching his century in 77 balls. But for Law, though, and to a lesser extent Robert Rollins, with whom he shared a record sixth-wicket partnership in the competition, making 127 in 18 overs, it could have been a very different story.

SCOREBOARD FROM SOUTHAMPTON

ESSEX	
G A Gooch c Smith b James	20
D D J Robinson b Udal	39
N Hussain b James	7
S G Law c Lunn b Whistaker	107
P J Pritchard c Aynes b Stephenson	15
P C Mann c Aynes b Stephenson	9
R J Rollins c Udal b Whistaker	53
A P Gresson c Udal b Whistaker	12
M C Illott run out	2
N F Williams not out	0
P M Such b Connor	0
Extras (lb 2, b 6, w 6)	16
Total (59.2 overs)	288
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-56, 2-72, 3-76, 4-113, 5-127, 6-264, 7-270, 8-279, 9-285	
BOWLING: Connor 11-2-47-1; Miboun 10-0-58-0; Udal 12-0-38-1; James 10-0-30-2; Stephenson 7-0-49-2; Whistaker 9-0-48-3	

The pair came together three balls after lunch with Essex 127 for five and in serious trouble: one more quick wicket and Hampshire would have been in the driving seat, but they were not permitted a sniff of such a wicket. The batting of Law, whose share of the stand was 79, was on a different plane from anything else on view.

He eventually perished in the late push for runs, as did Rollins, who scored 53 without hitting a boundary, but Essex reached a commanding total of 288 with ease.

It presented Hampshire with a target that they only briefly threatened to reach on a pitch providing gentle turn. They lost the early key wickets of Stephenson and Smith — who was perhaps unfortunate to be adjudged leg-before on the front foot — and Benjamin, after playing himself in sensibly, was unable to break free

of the shackles imposed by Such.

When Terry top-edged a sweep into the hands of Illott off Grayson and James was smartly run out by Pritchard at mid-off, Hampshire's hopes of victory — and of any further interest in the season — were abruptly ended. Two further run outs emphasised the home side's enveloping sense of disarray, as did beery Essex chants celebrating a rare one-day cup run.

If Essex are to win their first one-day prize for 11 years, they may need Law's services through to September, which in turn depends on Australia's doubtful visit to Sri Lanka. He has now scored 11 centuries this season, the first two of which came at Southampton in May; he also scored a century for Young Australia on his first visit to the ground last year.

Essex ran into trouble against the lively left-arm seam bowling of James, who had Gooch dropped in his second over before dismissing him in his third. Gooch pulled the ball to midwicket, where Smith bruised his right hand taking the catch, forcing him off the field for the remainder of the innings.

James also removed Hussain with a fine inswinger that trapped him leg-before for seven. It was Hussain's first innings since breaking his right index finger nearly four weeks ago and he later expressed himself satisfied that the injury had fully healed.

Surrey see off Caddick

BY MICHAEL HENDERSON

THE OVAL (Surrey won toss): Surrey, with six wickets in hand, need 100 runs to beat Somerset

WHEN Butcher and Adam Hollis accepted the offer of bad light shortly after 6pm last night, Surrey needed 100 runs at exactly four an over to reach the NatWest Trophy semi-finals and it will be a surprise if they fail to get them today. Somerset have had their moments, but they are defending a modest total and, of the last 25 overs, Caddick can bowl only two.

Caddick bowled splendidly yesterday, taking the wickets of Bicknell and Thorpe in his opening spell and, after switching to the Vauxhall End, getting Brown with his first ball. Trump has already completed his 12 overs, which leaves the supporting bowlers, Lee and Hayhurst, with the job of applying a mighty

squeeze. As Butcher is still there and there is some batting to come if necessary, Surrey ought not to be denied. Surrey's innings began disastrously. Darren Bicknell was leg-before to Caddick's second ball and, before the over was out, Stewart was thrown out from gully by Trump. Thorpe survived another confident shout by Caddick for leg-before and then edged a catch to Turner.

At 34 for three they were in a pickle and it could easily have been worse. Brown had made only seven when he tried to flick Rose through mid-wicket, got a leading edge and watched Lathwell make 25 yards from mid-on, gain a good position beneath the ball — and drop it.

Lathwell owed Somerset that catch, having failed when Stewart asked them to bat first. They recovered well through Bowler and Ecc-

lestone, who added 97 for the second wicket, and then threw away the advantage their batting had earned. From 141 for two in the fortieth over they were dismissed for 225 as Julian, with four wickets, returned to the field.

Bowler departed an angry man after dabbing Benjamin, almost deliberately, to slip. Ecclestone was more ambitious, caught at long-off as he sought to clear the straight boundary. Lee, whose hitting has been a feature of the summer, then chipped Martin Bicknell's slower ball to mid-on and after that no batsman could, or would, assert himself, leaving Somerset at least 40 runs light.

In the absence of Lewis, whose thigh strain has yet to heal properly, Surrey included both Hollis and brothers, and each held a couple of catches. Somerset's eighth wicket, that of Rose, brought a fraternal double act when Ben simply strolled round at long-off and pouched the ball as though it was fielding practice. In its delightfully understated way this catch was a remarkable example of self-assurance.

Nottinghamshire yesterday released three players and gave a warning that there would be more to leave at the end of the season. Bobby Chapman, Mark Broadhurst and Jonathan Wileman have been allowed to leave as the county look to trim down the playing staff. Stuart Foster, the chairman of the cricket committee, said: "We're still overstaffed with 25 players."

SCOREBOARD FROM THE OVAL

SOMERSET	
M N Lathwell c Stewart b Benjamin	8
P D Bowler c Thorpe b Benjamin	52
S C Ecclestone c A J Hollis	52
B M P Bicknell	34
R J Hudson b Julian	34
S Lee c A J Hollis b M P Bicknell	4
N A Parsons c B C Hollis b Julian	8
T R J Turner not out	21
A M Hayhurst c Stewart b Pearson	4
G D Rose c B C Hollis	8
A R Caddick c M P Bicknell b Julian	4
H R J Trump b Julian	3
Extras (lb 3, w 21, nb 2)	26
Total (59.1 overs)	225
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20, 2-117, 3-141, 4-156, 5-180, 6-181, 7-192, 8-208, 9-216	
BOWLING: M P Bicknell 12-1-38-2; Benjamin 12-2-35-2; B C Hollis 4-0-	

SURREY	
D J Bicknell b Caddick	4
M A Butcher not out	52
T A J Stewart run out	0
G P Thorpe c Turner b Caddick	13
A D Brown c Turner b Caddick	41
A J Hollis not out	2
Eccles (lb 7, w 7)	14
Total (4 wickets, 35 overs)	125
BOWLING: B C Hollis 8-0-36-1; Pearson 12-0-42-1	



Without the right help David Gower might have ended up in court.

Well, that's where David Gower was heading as a law student until somebody spotted a spark of talent. By supporting the Development of Excellence programme, NatWest is helping to identify, coach and develop today's bright young hopefuls, giving them the same chance to shine. Great news for English cricket, not so good for the opposition.

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Senior takes in

BY ROBERT STEVENS	
In the Premier League, the horses would have been...	
after the auction...	
W	N
Pass	Pass
Pass	Pass
All Pass	Pass

Senior led the...

Contract: 3 NT redoubles

GRIM DYKE
a. The Sky
b. Sappho
c. The Antonine Wall
d. The Great Northern Divers
e. Work quotas

ATLANTA 96: THE COMPLETE GUIDE

The name of Robin Hood may be forever feared by the rich and loved by the poor among the springboard-diving fraternity after events at the Georgia Tech Aquatic Center. The New Zealander of the same name was the referee overseeing a merry band of judges who, at midnight on Monday, redistributed a treasure long held by the United States, winner of every men's springboard title since 1924, bar two. The bounty went to Ni Xiong, gold, and Yu Zhoucheng, silver, both of China. Ni, 22, was winner of the highboard bronze medal in Barcelona and before that the silver medal in Seoul. "I'm very, very excited," a solemn Ni said. "This is my first gold." How would he celebrate? "I like to watch technical videos of diving." Not quite the cup of tea for Robert Morgan, Great Britain's highboard specialist, who was held by security after watching the springboard final. His crime? He had a few beers in his bag to share with his diving chums. Perhaps he should choose technical videos next time. CL

Andre Agassi has hardly been moving mountains out at the Olympic tennis tournament in Stone Mountain Park, but he has been at the centre of the first recorded Olympic tennis riot. The American favourite for gold, was scheduled to play doubles with Maliwa Washington on the centre court when rain interrupted the afternoon's play and caused the match to be rescheduled for a smaller, outside court. The centre-court crowd, who had paid \$50 a ticket, were so angry they refused to let the matches continue. Tournament supervisor, Ken Farrer, was called to quieten the disturbance, but when riot police had to be called in to stop centre-court ticketholders from infiltrating other courts, the match was transferred back to the centre court. The Americans promptly lost, but the crowd went home happy. Victory for Tim Henman and Neil Broad today, against the German pair of David Prinosil and Marc Gollner, would assure Britain of Olympic silver. Defeat means a play-off for bronze. AL

Being on home ground is not the only advantage the United States showjumpers have in the Georgia International Horse Park. Linda Allen, their innovative technical-course designer, is responsible for the courses and inadvertently gave the United States riders further help in Monday's qualifying round for the individual final. Her 14-fence course, artistically designed to reflect the landscape of south Georgia, contained a rustic over at the eleventh fence, which was directly facing the sun. Most of the horses drawn early in the competition were unable to see the back pole in the bright sun, and knocked it down. The four United States riders were all drawn in the second half when the sun had moved round. None faulted at the fence. When Paul Schockemöhle, the German trainer, pointed out this advantage afterwards, Allen replied that the draw was entirely fair because it was done by computer. "Yes... but it's an American computer," Schockemöhle drawled. JM

Reports: Craig Lord, Andrew Longmore, Jenny Macdonald

HOT SPOT

Ben Ainslie looks certain to win a medal in the Laser class of the Olympic yachting competition. The final race today sees Ainslie make his last bid for a gold medal, challenging Robert Scheidt, the world champion from Brazil. Ainslie, 19, would become Britain's youngest-ever Olympic medal winner and provide some much-needed relief for the British supporters. TV: BBC1 from 1.40pm

To compete in the Olympics, an athlete must achieve a qualifying standard. Even most close followers of the sport believed a month ago that Kenny Harrison, the 1991 triple jump world champion from the United States, did not possess the qualifying distance to take part in Atlanta. The United States federation (USATF) was among them. Harrison had not achieved the required 16.85 metres outdoors since the qualifying period began in January 1995, and USATF officials had told him indoor performances did not count. They might not have realised that not Ian Hodge, a leading international statistician, drawn attention to the fact that Harrison had achieved the standard indoors, 16 months earlier, and that it was acceptable. Hodge is British. The man who came second in the triple jump, Jonathan Edwards, is British. Hodge said that Edwards would have wanted Harrison there to validate the competition. He is probably right. Being fair-minded Brits, we would too. Are we all agreed? DP

Understandably, the Israelis still take no chances with their Olympic athletes — a point underlined by the mysterious disappearance of the men's windsurfing bronze medal-winner, Gal Friedman, from Pardes-Hana, turned up at the "first yachting medal ceremony" in Savannah on Monday evening like everyone else. He then received his cherished medal and set off with the other medal winners down a secure walkway to a specially prepared "mix zone" where the sailors were to meet the media. Israeli television and radio were there in force, but Friedman had disappeared. Officials could not account for it and concluded he had been swept away as a safety precaution. As one official put it: "The Israeli TV guys were just left standing, going 'where is he and what the hell's going on?'". He reckoned that Friedman had been nabbed by Israeli intelligence officers anxious that he should remain in the public eye for as little time as possible. EG

Perhaps the most enduring memory of these Games is the sight of Kari Strug, the United States gymnast, carried by Bela Karolyi into the arena for the medal ceremony of the women's team event. Strug is a typical product of a damaged leg to reach sporting glory. With his wife Martha, Karolyi was the coach who nurtured Nadia Comaneci to her 1976 Olympic title. After the pair defected to the United States, they opened a gymnastics school. Their first success was Mary Lou Retton, the 1984 Olympic gold medal-winner. This year, both Strug and Dominique Moceanu, another member of the US team, have been trained by Karolyi. However, Jack Rockwell, the US gymnastics coach for two decades until 1994, believes Karolyi's harsh methods have destroyed many young gymnasts. "They were pretty good when they showed up at his gym but they were destroyed in the time with Bela and Martha," he said. JG

Reports: David Powell, Edward Gorman, John Goodbody

MEDAL TABLES

	Gold	Silver	Bronze		Gold	Silver	Bronze
United States	24	28	12	Denmark	1	0	1
Russia	16	13	12	Romania	1	0	0
France	13	6	12	Yugoslavia	1	0	0
China	11	11	9	Armenia	1	0	0
Germany	10	11	9	Czech Rep	1	0	0
Italy	10	6	6	Ecuador	1	0	0
Australia	7	5	16	Hong Kong	1	0	0
Poland	4	4	4	Syria	1	0	0
Ukraine	4	4	4	Bulgaria	0	4	4
Romania	4	4	4	Sweden	0	4	4
Hungary	4	4	4	Latvia	0	4	4
Cuba	4	4	4	Kazakhstan	0	4	4
South Korea	4	4	4	Norway	0	4	4
Japan	4	4	4	Argentina	0	4	4
New Zealand	4	4	4	Austria	0	4	4
Ireland	4	4	4	Namibia	0	4	4
Turkey	4	4	4	Belarus	0	4	4
Switzerland	4	4	4	Lithuania	0	4	4
Canada	4	4	4	Georgia	0	4	4
Brazil	4	4	4	Tajikistan	0	4	4
Belgium	4	4	4	Malta	0	4	4
South Africa	4	4	4	Moldova	0	4	4
Singapore	4	4	4	Mongolia	0	4	4
Belarus	4	4	4	Morocco	0	4	4
Holland	4	4	4	Mozambique	0	4	4
Czech Rep	4	4	4	Nigeria	0	4	4
Kazakhstan	4	4	4	Tunisia	0	4	4
Czech Republic	4	4	4	Uganda	0	4	4
Finland	4	4	4				
Spain	4	4	4				
North Korea	4	4	4				

At end of Monday's events

Weather: bright Humidity: 85% Temperature: 74F

TODAY AT THE GAMES

All times BST

ARCHERY: Men's first round (14.00) and final (19.00).
ATHLETICS: Men: Decathlon, 100m (14.00); pole vault, qualifying (14.30); decathlon, long jump (15.05); 200m, first round (15.45); decathlon, shot (16.45); decathlon, high jump (22.35); 200m, second round (23.15); 400m hurdles, semi-finals (00.15); discus, final (00.30); 3,000m steeplechase, semi-finals (01.00); 800m, final (01.50); decathlon, 400m (02.25); 5,000m, heats (02.55). Women: 1,500m, heats (15.00); 200m, first round (17.00); shot, qualifying (22.15); 100m

hurdles, semi-finals (22.45); triple jump, final (23.35); 200m, second round (23.45); 400m hurdles, final (00.40); 100m hurdles, final (02.10).
BADMINTON: Men's and women's doubles, finals (14.00); men's and women's singles, bronze medal matches (00.00); mixed doubles, bronze medal match (00.00).
BASKETBALL: Women: Quarter-finals (20.00, 22.00, 01.00 and 03.00).
BOXING: Quarter-finals: Flyweight, featherweight, light-welterweight, light-middleweight, light-heavyweight, super-heavyweight (18.30 and 01.00).
CANOEING: First round and repechages: Men's K1 (14.00 and 19.30); men's C1 (14.50

and 20.00); women's K1 (15.20 and 20.20); men's K2 (15.50 and 20.40); men's C2 (16.30 and 21.10); women's K2 (17.00 and 21.30). All races over 500m.
CYCLING: Road: Men's road race (13.30).
DIVING: Women's springboard, semi-finals (16.30) and final (03.00).
EQUESTRIANISM: Individual dressage (13.30 and 20.00).
FOOTBALL: Men's semi-finals (01.00).
HANDBALL: Men's preliminary round: Pool A: Russia v Switzerland (17.00); Croatia v Sweden (19.30); Kuwait v United States (02.00). Pool B: Egypt v Spain (15.00); France v Germany (21.30); Algeria v Brazil (00.00).

HOCKEY: Men: Classification matches (13.30 and 16.00) and semi-finals (22.30 and 01.00).
TABLE TENNIS: Women's singles, bronze medal match and final (20.30); men's singles, semi-finals (00.00).
TENNIS: Women's singles, semi-finals (16.00); men's doubles, semi-finals (18.00); women's doubles, semi-finals (20.00).
VOLLEYBALL: Women: Classification matches (13.00); men's quarter-finals (18.30 and 00.30).
WRESTLING: Freestyle: Under 48kg, under 57kg, under 68kg, under 82kg and under 100kg, classification matches (14.30) and finals (20.30).
YACHTING: Women's Europe, final race; Laser, final race; Soling, match races (all 18.00).

WHEN TO WATCH ON TELEVISION

BBC1
7.0-9.0am Olympic Breakfast, 9.05am-12.35pm Olympic Grandstand, 1.40-5.35pm Olympic Grandstand, 7.0-8.30pm Essential Olympics, 10.25pm-4.25am Olympic Grandstand
BBC2
5.35-7.0pm Olympic Grandstand, 8.50-10.30pm Olympic Grandstand, 12.35-3.0am Olympic Grandstand
Eurosport
24-hour coverage.

OLYMPIC GAMES

Hat-trick by Sixsmith secures tilt at bronze

Great Britain 5
Argentina 0

FROM SYDNEY FRISCHIN
IN ATLANTA



GREAT Britain played themselves into medal contention in the women's Olympic hockey tournament here yesterday with a devastating victory over Argentina in the round-robin series.

Jane Sixsmith scored three goals and Mandy Nicholls two, but the figures say nothing of the havoc caused in Argentina's defence by these two players. Nicholls in particular.

A total of eight points from seven matches assured the British team of a place among the top four and they will play off for the bronze medal tomorrow.

Speed, skill and control were the main features of a match dominated by Britain because of their ability to communicate as a team. Argentina relied mainly on individual expertise, a tactic which paid no dividends.

Argentina launched the first attack, without effect, before Britain took matters in hand. Anna Bennett raced into open space on the right of the field and delivered the ball inside the circle to Nicholls, who swept it home for the first goal in the eighth minute.

Five minutes later, a short corner to Britain led to their second goal. Argentina broke the line, but play continued and, after Jill Atkins's shot had been saved, Sixsmith, who had actually made the push out from the line, nipped in to score.

A few attacks led by Vanina Oneto, the Argentina centre forward, were repelled before Britain forced four more short corners in the first half. In this sequence, a shot by Atkins was deflected by the goalkeeper, who saved successive shots from Tina Cullen and Sixsmith, almost on half-time.

Three minutes into the second half, Gabriela Sanchez, the Argentina centre half, had a chance to reduce the lead. She was checked by Hilary Rose, who fell awkwardly after saving and left the field, to be replaced in goal by Joanne Thompson. Sue Slocombe, the Great Britain coach, said that Rose had suffered a bruised rib, but that it was too early to say whether she would be fit to play in the next match.

The game continued at a fast pace with a shot by Fraser from a short corner being deflected and Thompson rising to the occasion to save at close range from Oneto. In the 55th minute, Thompson made a diving save to avert a goal from a short corner.

Argentina fell further behind in the 61st minute when Sixsmith scored Britain's third goal after a brief skirmish inside the circle. Six minutes later, a shot by Fraser from a short corner was saved and Sixsmith was on hand for her third and Britain's fourth.

The last thrill of the match was provided by Nicholls, whose reversed-stick shot landed in the goal to complete the rout. Argentina conceded eight short corners, earning only two.

Sixsmith, who scored two goals in Great Britain's 4-3 victory against South Korea in

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Great Britain	5	0	0	0	18	9	10
Argentina	0	0	0	5	9	18	0
South Korea	3	1	1	1	15	11	8
USA	3	1	1	1	12	11	8
Germany	2	2	1	1	10	11	5
France	2	2	1	1	10	11	5
Spain	0	0	0	5	15	11	0

the play-off for the bronze medal at the Barcelona Olympic Games of 1992, said: "It has been a hard time since Barcelona. I had not scored many goals before that event and, all of a sudden, I became a prolific goalscorer. I've been expected to score here and I've been under a lot of pressure."

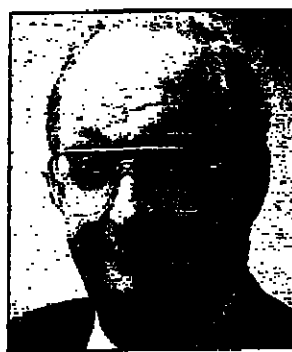
Slocombe praised the Great Britain team for their strength of character. "Great Britain's character is second to none," Slocombe said. "We have a motto: if you don't grow you go. If you are going to peak, you've got to develop as a unit, a squad and as an individual."

In the second match yesterday, South Korea defeated Germany 1-0 to stay in the medal hunt.

GREAT BRITAIN: H. Rose; J. Atkins (goalkeeper); K. Brown, K. Johnson, M. Davies, S. Fraser, P. Robertson, A. Bennett, J. Miller, J. Seaman, M. Nicholls. Substitutes used: Thompson, C. Cook, T. Cullen, R. Simpson, J. Mould.

ARGENTINA: M. Armit, S. Macdonald, M. Adams, J. Cullen, S. Connelley, M. Gonzalez, G. Sanchez (captain), A. Gantner, J. Sanchez-Puy, V. Oneto, R. Macrae. Substitutes used: M. Costello (goalkeeper), P. Buckley (Australia), R. Chastel (United States).

When silver is as good as gold



DAVID MILLER

on a noble effort

THERE were three noble Olympians out there on the track on Monday, on what was an exceptional night at the athletics stadium: Carl Lewis, Michael Johnson... and Roger Black. If Olympic spirit still means anything, it is no chauvinist impulse to place Black alongside two outstanding gold medal-winners, one of them a legend.

If a distinction can be made between glory and honour, then Lewis's fourth Olympic long jump victory and Johnson's predictably triumphant 400 metres, together with Haile Gebrselassie and Svetlana Masterkova, took the glory, but to Black went the honour. If one wished to tell one's grandchild a morality tale, it would be that of Black's silver medal.

At 30, Black has been around for almost as long as Lewis. He has ten gold medals from significant championships — four individual and six relay — but nothing previously from an Olympics.

His succession of injury traumas reads like a medical reference book: foot injuries which kept him out of the 1987 world championships, after winning the European title in 1986, and the Seoul Olympics; an ankle operation in 1989 before retaining his European title the next year; a hip operation in 1992 for an imbalance, following the semi-final elimination in Barcelona; a virus infection the next year prior to a European silver in 1994; a cartilage operation last year, having finished seventh at the world championships in Gothenburg.

If Lewis's nine Olympic gold medals are the stuff of dreams, so, too, is Black's silver won on Monday. For the 24 hours after he had crossed the line ahead of Davis Komoa, of Uganda, in third place, Black did not stop smiling. Probably not even when asleep.

"A silver behind Johnson," he said, repeatedly, "is like a gold ahead of anyone else. I ran, for me, the perfect race. My goal was to walk away happy. A silver medal was beyond expectation."

He regards Johnson as insuperable — unbeaten over 400 metres since 1989, of whom his close rival, Derek Mills, of the United States, had said: "I try to remember he's just a man."

Johnson, however, also has his traumas, but they lie in his head. Brought up by a father who was a perfectionist, Johnson now aims for perfection — to be the first to achieve the 400 and 200 metres double at the Olympics, something which he achieved in last year's world championships. Yet, a few weeks ago, Frankie Fredericks, of Namibia, ended his unbeaten 200 sequence,



Black relishes his moment on the Olympic medals' podium on Monday night

Black had arrived at the final in ideal shape, both mentally and physically. Twice this season he had improved the United Kingdom record, the second time to 44.37sec. In the heat and semi-final, he had moved, for a runner with a renowned heavy stride, with fluidity. He looked good.

'Black's medal is the stuff of dreams'

The search for perfection additionally means that Johnson is tormented by the image of Lewis as Superman, an image for which he yearns. In Barcelona, an upset stomach cost Johnson a place in the 200 metres final. Lewis, a shade dismissively, has said that Johnson is uncharismatic. They did not celebrate together in the arena on Tuesday night, though their victories were almost simultaneous: Lewis's, presumably, his last, Johnson's his first. They are not friends.

"The secret is to enjoy the process," Black admitted. "I go to the line [nowadays] not nervous. It takes you time to learn that. Some need aggression — I need to be at peace with myself."

After the final, with a time of 44.41 to Johnson's Olympic record of 43.49, Black reflected on all the pain that had preceded his finest race. "To be standing on Johnson's left on the podium was amazing," he said. "I'm ecstatic. The achievement for me is as great as the gold for him. I have what I set out to do."

"I ran an experienced race. I had needed to think about

what I wanted. If I'd gone with him to 300, as I could have done, I would not have got the silver at 400. I was strong coming home. That was the difference from the last ten years."

Black was aided by the injury of Harry "Butch" Reynolds in the semi-final, but he had still to beat Alvin Harrison, ranked third this year. In the event, Harrison, in fourth place, was only just able to fend off a powerful finish by Iwan Thomas, of Great Britain. Another fine run. Reynolds's injury could strengthen Britain's prospects in the relay.

For Johnson, the title made amends, he said, for the disappointment in Barcelona. At 28, he knew it might be his only chance in the Olympics at 400 metres. He acknowledges that his start out of the blocks — poor on Monday — against Fredericks in the 200 metres could be critical. His coach, he said, would be working on it. Johnson may not have Lewis's aura, but the way it has been for Lewis for 12 years, Johnson is everyone's target.

RADIO CHOICE

Funny side of the street

The Street. Radio 4 (FM), 10am.

Tony Wilkinson knows better than to take a street and try convincing us that it is a microcosm of the city, town, or village to which it belongs. But I'll bet that his series will send more intrigued listeners scurrying to his chosen streets and their settings than many a guide book. The Yorkshire world village of Thixendale, population 121, has a human and animal characters in its high street to sustain a radio "soap". There's the pet pig that may or may not end up sliced on a plate. There's the ram called Brusco, from Lambrosc, that thinks it's a dog. There's the village shopkeeper who is custodian of the villagers' secrets, and the chap who keeps asking what time the next bus leaves although it left 27 years ago.

Message in a Bottle. Radio 4, 8pm.

Radio 4's ambitious season of programmes about the sea in all its aspects began last weekend with *The Times* Lynne Truss putting periwinkle words into Bill Wallace's mouth. In due course, we will hear what Judi Dench sounds like as a limpet. *Message in a Bottle* is more conventional stuff. It examines the messages people put into the bottles they throw into the sea. One such resulted in a musical work being written for the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra. Another led to a wedding. There are barely believable stories about primitive current-measuring devices — a baby's bottle filled with jelly and a compass, and a floating alarm clock.

Peter Daville

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 6.30am Chris Evans 9.00
Kew Garden 11.30 Radio 1 Road-
show, live from Central Beach in Great
Yarmouth 12.30pm Lisa (Anson) 2.00
Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier 7.00
Evening Session 9.00 Lee and Harrier
10.00 Mark Radcliffe 12.00 Claire
Shugart 4.00am Chris Warren

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 6.00am Sarah Kennedy
7.30am Wake Up to Women 9.30am
Lester 11.30am Jimmy Young 1.00pm
Debbie Thorne 3.00 Ed Stewart 5.00pm
John Dunn 7.00 Ralph McTell 8.00
Upstream with Belamy 10.00 6.30pm
the Footgates. A new series with
Georgina Boyes (1/5) 9.00 Frank
Henners's Wales (2/6) 9.30 Nigel
Ogden 10.30 The Sounders 12.00am
Chris Now 3.00 Steve Macdonald

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The
Olympic Breakfast Programme 8.35 The
Magazine 12.00 Midday with Mar 2.00
Inverdale's Olympics includes athletics,
hockey and football 5.30 Nationwide
incl. at 5.45 Entertainment News 7.00
Olympic News Extra, incl. at 7.20 Sports
and Olympic Roundup 7.45 Atlanta Live
with Sybil Ross and Ian Payne
Includes the semi-finals of the tennis at
Stone Mountain. Plus boxing and yachting
from Savannah 10.00 Night Extra,
with Valerie Sanderson 11.05
Inverdale's Olympics, incl. the women's
400m hurdles final and the semi-finals of
the men's hockey 4.00am Up All Night,
with Rhod Sharp

TALK RADIO

6.30am Paul Ross 10.00 Scott Ches-
tain 1.00pm Anthony Rastburn 3.00
Tommy Boyd 5.00 Peter Dealey 7.00
Sports Zone 10.00 James White
1.00am Ian Collins

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Andrew
McGregor. Includes
C.P.E. Bach (Quartet in G
Major); Beethoven
(Symphony No 2 in D);
Mozart (Symphony No 31 in
D); Chopin (Piano); Part (The
Beatitudes); Bach
(Brandenburg Concerto No 4
in G); Suk (Fantasy in G
minor, Op 24)

9.00 Morning Collection with
Paul Gambaccini. Includes
Beethoven (Bagatelles, Op
33); Strauss (Belshazzar, Op 39
No 4); Albeniz (Op 10 No 8);
Debussy (Symphony No 3)
Musical Encounters, with
Stephen Hughes. Live
(Fundamentals, Harmonies
poétiques et religieuses);
Lutoslawski (Chantrelles et
chantrelles); Giovanni
Gabrieli (Sonata plain e forte);
Rachmaninov (Piano Concerto
No 2) 11.07am Berlioz (Overture:
Le Corsaire); Boyeld (Singing
Quartet No 2); Alfred Hill
(Symphony No 6)

12.00 Composer of the Week:
Handel
1.00 Manchester Summer
Recitals. Marilyn Hill, tenor,
Craig Ogden, guitar. Britten
(Songs from the Chinese);
Schubert (London, Rastburn
guitar); Tippett (Songs for
Agnieszka); Schumann (Two
Venetian Songs, Mythen, Op
25) (3/10)

2.00 Midweek Choice. Includes
Anne Rice play rise,
Rosenzweig; Berlioz (Vox
soprano, madame, Beatrice
et Benedicte); Mendelssohn
(Concert Piece in F, Op 113);
Angeles (Symphony in D
minor); Tansley (At the
Reading of a Psalm, excerpts)

5.55am Shipping (LW only) 6.00
News Briefing 6.10 Farming
Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day
6.30 Today 7.45 Thought for
the Day 8.40 Speak After the
Beech (2/4) 8.58 Weather

9.00 News 9.05 In the
Psychiatrist's Chair.
Professor Anthony Clare talks
to Jung Chang (1)

9.45 Whippersnappers. Two
housewives describe their
escape to each other in the form
of audio letters (2/4)

10.00 News: The Street (FM only).

10.10 Daily Service (LW)

10.15 On This Day (LW)

10.30 Woman's Hour

11.30 Gardener's Question Time,
from the Royal Horticultural
Society of Ireland (1)

12.00 News: You and Yours, with
Kathryn Robinson

12.25pm No Commitments. A
comedy-drama series about
three sisters, with Rosemary
Leach, Nicola Pagett and
Celia Imrie (2/6) 12.55
Weather

1.00 The World at One, with
Sheena MacDonald

1.40 The Archers (1) 1.55
Shipping Forecast

2.00 News: The Curiosity
Cabinet. The final episode of
Catherine Cookson's series
three-part play set in the 18th
century

2.45 Letters from Abroad.
Veronica Corbi concludes her
series of letters from Pakistan

3.00 News: The Afternoon Shift

4.00 News: 4.05 Kaleidoscope.
The animated film of Road Dahl's
book *James and the Giant
Peach*

4.45 Short Story: After Life, by
Michael Ondaatje. Read by
Nina Wadia

5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast
6.00 Six O'Clock News

6.05 Brain of Britain 1996, with
Robert Robinson (1)

7.00 News: 7.05 The Archers

7.20 The Deep

7.30 Troubled Waters. The first of
a three-part series of
programmes looking at who
top the seas

8.00 The Deep Season: Message in a Bottle. See
Choice

8.30 The Deep Season: 8-20,000
Leagues Under the Sea.
The round-the-world
yachtsman Mike Golding
examines the latest develop-
ments in studying ocean
circulation and climate (1/4)

9.00 Costing the Earth
9.30 Kaleidoscope (1) 9.55
Weather

10.00 The World Tonight, with
Isabel Hilton

10.45 Book at Bedtime: Changes
of Address. Juliet Stevenson
reads Lee Langley's novel
(2/6) (1)

11.00 Educated Evans. Edgar
Wallace's comedy, narrated
by Freddie Jones (2/4)

11.30 Twenty Players. The all-
round sportsman Gordon
Telford (1/4) (1)

11.45 The Shuttlesworths.
comedy show written and
performed by Graham
Fellows (4/6) (1)

12.00 News: 12.05 Weather
12.30 The Late Book: The Secret
History, by Donna Tartt.
Read by William Horne (3/4)

12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.30
As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.1-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6. RADIO 5. FM 94.6-96.8. RADIO 6. FM 96.8-99.0. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 1558; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Jan Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thompson, Jane Gregory and Jan McManus.

Industry cashes in on perfect stage

FROM ANDREW LONGMORE

THE power of the manufacturing dollar brought the mountain bikers to the woods of Conyers yesterday, a delightful weekend pastime transformed into an Olympic sport by jazy lacy and the need to sell more bikes.

Go into any bicycle shop in the land and you will see a row of nobly-tired, multi-geared mountain bikes. The industry is worth £150 million in the United Kingdom, three times that in the United States. Two years ago, 108 million mountain bikes were produced in the world. A racing bike? What's that? The "Dream Team" sells basketball to the world, the mountain bikes peddle bikes.

"The public and press tend to think it's big kids riding BMX bikes," Caroline Alexander, Great Britain's European women's champion, said, "but mountain biking is actually one of the toughest sports in the Olympics. Only cross-country skiing and marathon running can compare with it."

Neither of those two are exactly spectator sports nor, for all the enthusiasm of the 30,000 crowd braving the black racer snakes to line the route of the Georgia International Horse Park, is cross-country mountain biking. The downhill version would make a better spectacle, but would be unrecognisable for the armchair viewer with money in his pocket.

The bikes are the stars here, not the riders. State-of-the-art machines built of titanium and aluminium, with 24 gears, weighing a mere 22lb and worth £5,000. The riders themselves, many refugees from the old BMX tours in the United States or unglamorous cyclo-cross in Europe, are still bewildered by the sudden rise to Olympic fame.

Ten years ago, at the age of 25, David "Tinker" Juarez was a washed-up racer on the fast-declining BMX circuit, contemplating a return to the construction site and obscurity. Now the dreadlocked Californian of Mexican descent has a five-bedroom house in Downey, the affluent neighbourhood where his mother, Rose, used to work as a cleaner to finance his obsession with bikes. His nickname is a reference to his passion for mechanics rather than a comment on his background or lifestyle, but the boom in mountain biking has brought wealth beyond his dreams.

"I've come to the right spot at the right time," Alexander said. "It's a young sport." From pottering about on a bicycle in a kibbutz to the Olympics in six years is one of the faster career progressions.

Juarez set off on the 30-mile course with the hopes of the American manufacturers on his broad shoulders, but in an event designed to bring the home country another victory, he fell every one of his 35 years, finishing a dispirited 17 minutes behind the gold medal-winner, Bart Jan Brenjens, a market gardener from Holland.

The British duo of David Baker and Gary Ford were far from disgraced in the 90F heat, Ford finishing twelfth and Baker fifteenth. To the chagrin of the Americans, the first Olympic men's race only confirmed the dominance of the Europeans.

While sports like triathlon have been knocking on Olympic doors for years, mountain biking has taken just 13 years to progress from organised sport to the posturers' place on the Olympic calendar. So strong was the push for its inclusion that mountain biking bypassed the usual procedure, becoming a full sport without being a demonstra-

tion event, at the expense of the 100 kilometres team time-trial. The men's event lasted more than two hours, the racing about as long as it took Luce Bramati, of Italy, and Brenjens to open up an Italian had wilted in the heat, the Dutchman rode away to win by a comfortable 2min 35sec from Thomas Frischknecht, of Switzerland.

Miguel Martinez, of France, 20, celebrated winning his bronze medal by doing an impressive wheeze over the line. Ernst Denil rode most of the race without a saddle. It was about the sum of the entertainment.

They should bring back the team time-trial for Sydney in four years' time and leave the mountain biking to the Sunday afternoon amateurs.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 39

GRIM'S DYKE
(c) Or Graham's, Graham's or Grime's Dyke. A popular name for the remains of Antonine's Wall between the Firth of Forth and the Firth of Clyde. Grim is an old name for the Devil. Walter Scott in his *Tales of a Grandfather* (chapter 1) says that when the Picts and Scots attacked, after the Romans left, Graham was the first to set out to do.

NORMS
(a) The Norms are the fates, the dispensers of destiny, in Norse mythology. They lived at the foot of the ash-tree Yggdrasil, which they watered daily from the fountain called Urd. These sisters eventually became three in number in imitation of the three Fates of classical legend.

ROSCUS
(b) A first-rate actor. Eponym from Quintus Roscius (d. c. 62BC), the Roman actor renowned for his grace of action, melody of voice, conception of character and delivery. Shakespeare, *Henry IV*, part III, v. vi: "What scene of death has Roscius now to act?"

CHOUANS
(c) French peasant bands in Brittany, under the leadership of Jean Cottereau (1767-1794), who rose in revolt in 1793 and joined the Royalists of La Vendée. Chouan (a corruption of *chat-huant*, a screech-owl) was the nickname of Cottereau, who imitated the screech of the owl to warn his companions of danger, and the name was extended to his followers.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE
1. Be5! causes a breakdown in communications in Black's position, e.g. 1... Rxc5 2. Ne8 and White wins - 2... Nf5 3. Nf6+ Kh8 4. Qg8 mate

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THE TIMES WEDNESDAY JULY 31 1996

6.00am Business Breakfast
7.00am Olympic Breakfast

9.00 News
9.05 Olympic Breakfast

12.35pm Neighbours

1.00 News & Weather
1.30 Regional News
1.40 Olympic Breakfast

5.35 Neighbours
6.00 News & Weather
6.30 Regional News & Weather
7.00 The Essential...
7.30 Holiday...
9.00 News & Weather
9.30 CHOICE...
10.2

Double-dealing and sleight of hand

Normally, I do not review *The Bill* (ITV), and for two very good reasons. The first is that its three-weekly episodes somehow all fall on evenings normally covered by my colleagues and the second... I'll come to shortly. Don't want to lose you quite yet.

This week, however, there is almost no avoiding the series, thanks to worried ITV executives who have sought to counter the perceived threat from the BBC and the Olympics by almost daily doses of Sun Hill. Actually, I thought the British team were doing a pretty good job of countering the Olympics themselves... but enough of such reasonable musings.

Anyway, the result is that after Monday night's repeated feature-length special it was back last night to what *The Bill* does best: cramming the maximum amount of plot into the minimum amount

of space. Having said that, however, by the time the commercials came along I was beginning to wonder how they were going to fill the second half.

After all, we had a body, we had a motive and we had a confession. No wonder DS Beech (Billy Murray) was looking pleased with himself. Now at this point it would be handy to have some sort of clever poker metaphor prepared, but I'm afraid I don't play cards and "he held all the aces" sounds rather feeble, so I won't try. Simon Tyrrell, the writer of this episode, however, is clearly a man who knows a flush from a full house.

The body was that of a professional gambler, who had been run over in the early hours of the morning as he made his way back from "a speller". What's a speller? a character obligingly asked, some 90 seconds after I had wondered exactly the same. "It's an illegal gambling club," said

Beech, "with a two-grand fine. Thank you."

My education continued. I learnt that the King of Hearts is the suicidal king (have a look at his sword the next time you're playing patience) and that two aces and two eights were "the dead man's hand" of the title. Quite why, I wasn't certain, but I'm sure it will come in useful anyway.

But, just as it was in danger of becoming a little too technical, a little too elaborate... Snap! No, snap's not the right word either but you know what I mean. The plot had been well and truly shuffled. Turned out that our pro poker player had not been murdered at all, but had been run over as a result of an imprudent decision to combine crossing a road with having another quick look at the engagement ring he had just bought. It was an example of one of the great

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

Sun Hill truths — that life is often a good deal less complicated than it initially seems.

We left Beech reflecting on that, as confession turned to bluff. "You thought I had one sort of hand," he teased (Jamie Foreman), who had means and motive but nothing else. "I just let you believe it." Beech looked like a man in need of a soothing game of clock patience.

Oh yes, the second reason I don't normally write about *The Bill*: My mother is one of its three producers and last night's was one of hers. Sorry, just the way fate deals 'em sometimes.

Still with me? Good, because Lynne Truss is back next week, so it won't happen again for ages. Let us move on and consider *Tracks* (BBC2), a programme that depicts its title has nothing to do with the Olympic Games and everything to do with the British countryside.

But it is far from the haven of rural tranquillity you might imagine or even hope for. Instead, it belies along with lots of music, lots of graphics and lots of people trying to show you how to climb a Scottish mountain in less than five minutes. The only respite comes with the animated wildlife nature notes by the Rev Rupert Greene. Last night his chosen theme was water meadows — and very interesting they were, too.

Part of Mr Greene's appeal is that while he may only be a cartoon he has the considerable saving grace of being an amateur naturalist, a truly Cornish countryman. By contrast, the real people that surround him are too fervent for my liking, a little too anxious to show off their thoroughly researched expertise.

So, with presenter Lindsay Cannon providing the introductions, we met Ray Mears, the "wilderness expert" who had 101 ideas for things to do with fungi. A 102nd sprang to mind, but Mears looked like the sort of man who had a penknife attachment for just that. We also met two people who appeared to have found birdwatching too exciting. One had taken up feather collecting, the other, dragonfly spotting. Nick Fisher described the latter pastime as "sexy" three times in five minutes. I did not believe him.

Energy and enthusiasm the programme has in admirable abundance, but it is playing a dangerous game by portraying the countryside as a place reserved for an elitist bunch of whispering, cagoule-wearing, know-all. What's wrong with just enjoying it?

Finally, *Genderquake* (Channel 4), which came to an end last night having never quite recovered from the fact that if you are going to go round asking difficult questions such as "what is really happening in British industry?" just about the last person you would want answering them is former *East-Enders* star, Susan Tully — or any actor, come to that. Apparently the answer is "diversity, co-operation, feminism". Which just goes to show that if you ask an actor a sensible question... you'll get a silly answer.

● Lynne Truss is on holiday

BBC2

6.00am Business Breakfast (16851)
7.00am Olympic Breakfast. The overnight action featuring Richard Phelps in the revamped modern pentathlon, which concluded last night. Plus the quarter-finals of the men's tennis, the badminton mixed doubles semi-finals, badminton, football and hockey, including 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15 news (s) (47122)

9.00am News (4686493)
9.05am Olympic Grandstand. Extended highlights of the overnight action. Includes the gymnastics gala, yachting, badminton, football, hockey and boxing (s) (4686764)

12.35pm Neighbours. Lou kisses goodbye to a fortune and Michael tells Jan some home truths (Ceefax) (s) (4448219)

1.00pm News & Weather (Ceefax) (57509)

1.30pm Regional News (12067219)

1.40pm Olympic Grandstand. Coverage of the first round of the 200m and the beginning of the decathlon. There are also women's singles semi-finals in tennis, badminton and basketball (s) (44276035)

5.35pm Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (597677)

6.00pm News & Weather (Ceefax) (219)

6.30pm Regional News Magazines (889)

7.00pm The Essential Olympics. Chris Boardman and Max Scandari compete in the gruelling 200km cycle road race. Plus live tennis, quarter-final boxing, a review of the day's athletics including the 200m and a look ahead to the 400m hurdles final (Ceefax) (s) (78764)

8.30pm Holidays Out. A new series presented by Kirsty Young and Ben Sherwood looking at ideas for things to do in Britain during the summer (Ceefax) (s) (6344)

9.00pm News & Regional News: Weather (Ceefax) (9783)

9.30pm Inside Story: The Lady Games (Ceefax) (s) (440144)

10.25pm Olympic Grandstand. Desmond Lynam introduces the latest live action. Athletics: 10.45 Women's 100m hurdles semi-finals. 11.15 Men's 200m second round. Featuring John Regis and Linford Christie. 11.35 Women's triple jump final. Britain has high hopes of Ashia Hansen making this final. 12.15 Men's 400m hurdles semi-final. 12.30 Men's 400m hurdles semi-final. 12.40 Women's 400m hurdles final. 1.00 Men's 3000m steeplechase semi-finals. 1.50 Men's 800m final. 2.10 Women's 100m hurdles final. 2.20 Yachting/Boxing. 2.55 Athletics, featuring the decathlon and the men's 5000m. 3.10 Athletics, badminton, table tennis, diving and volleyball (s) (83321035)

4.25pm Miss-Talkies. Jon Pinnat demonstrates that it can go wrong if it goes wrong, with the aid of the BBC archives (s) (42710062)

4.40pm FILM: Silver Lode (1954). On the morning of his wedding, four men calling themselves marshals ride into town accusing the groom of committing a murder in the State of California. When his so-called friends refuse to help him, our hero is forced to prove his innocence and reveal the marshals' lies in a climactic gunfight. With John Payne, Dan Duryea and Elizabeth Selt. Directed by Allan Dwan (1954) (s) (846823)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes. The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes. These allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. VideoPlus+ is a registered trademark of Gemstar Development Ltd.

SKY NEWS. 7.00pm Undun (20238). 8.00pm Press Your Luck (1994). 9.00pm Open House (1994). 10.00pm Jolly (1994). 11.00pm Jessy (1994). 12.00pm Code 3 (1994). 1.00pm Desperate Women (1994). 2.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 3.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 4.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 5.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 6.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 7.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 8.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 9.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 10.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 11.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 12.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 1.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 2.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 3.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 4.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 5.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 6.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 7.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 8.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 9.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 10.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 11.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 12.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 1.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 2.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 3.00pm The 100th Hour (1994). 4.00pm The 100th Hour 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St Mawes makes mark at Glorious Goodwood

SPORT

WEDNESDAY JULY 31 1996

OLYMPIC GAMES 42

Sixsmith's goals give Britain chance of bronze



Tendon problem may force Briton's glorious career to premature end at Atlanta

Injured Gunnell considers retirement

FROM DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT IN ATLANTA

SALLY GUNNELL, Britain's most cherished athlete, for her successes, humbleness and always cheerful demeanour, admitted yesterday that she may have reached the end of her glorious career.

"I will not be making any decisions about whether to carry on running at the moment," Gunnell said, recognising that retirement would be the alternative preferred to another operation and long journey back through rehabilitation to fitness, should it come to that choice.

For the second time in three races, Gunnell had to be

grand prix on July 3. Ironically — cruelly — it was at the same flight that she pulled up again. Knocked off balance at the fourth hurdle, she suffered the same shooting pain at the sixth hurdle that she had felt in Lausanne and stopped before she reached the seventh.

This was no way to celebrate her thirtieth birthday. In the deep of winter, she had been looking forward to this night as a way to toast her departure from her twenties and forget the traumas of 1995. Last year, with an injury to her right foot similar to that which she has now, she had been unable to defend her world title and saw her world record go on the same evening as she watched from a BBC commentary box.

The American pair, Kim Batten — who took her world title and world record 12 months ago — and Tonya Buford-Bailey have ruled the event and Gunnell went into Atlanta with the odds stacked heavily against her. The two United States athletes are among the favourites here.

This time, it is her left foot. She will have a scan today and then discuss the implications of that with medical experts. Gunnell said after a scan of the injury four weeks ago that she would have retired had it required another operation. She would, she said, not have wanted to spend another full year working her way back to fitness. She and her husband, Jon Bigg, want to start a family.

helped from the track on Monday evening, when injury took its toll again, on this most important of occasions. Here to defend the Olympic 400 metres hurdles championship that she had won in Barcelona four years earlier, with a technique as close to perfection as the event has seen, she left the stage not carrying the Union flag in a lap of celebration but in the wheelchair that took her to the medical room.

It was a recurrence of the tendon injury to her left foot, though it had not been given a reasonable time to heal, that brought her to an abrupt halt at the seventh flight of ten hurdles in the Lausanne

in addition, what more is there for her to achieve in the sport? She has broken a world record, which Linford Christie, who won the 100 metres at Barcelona, never has in an outdoor arena. She has been an Olympic champion, which Britain's other three leading athletes of the Nineties — Jonathan Edwards, Colin Jackson, and Steve Backley — never have, though Backley still has his chance to come this week. She has achieved the so-called grand slam, holding Olympic, world, European and Commonwealth titles all at the same time.



A distraught Gunnell collapses in pain on the track in Atlanta during her fateful semi-final of the 400 metres hurdles, with the defence of her Olympic title in tatters

Simon Barnes 39
Leap to greatness 41
Television marathon 41
Silver lining 42

Second Russian fails drug test in Atlanta

THE expulsion from the Centennial Olympic Games of Nina Zhivanevskaya, the backstroke swimmer from Russia, yesterday took to four the number of those who have tested positive for the banned stimulant, Broomant, in Atlanta (Craig Lord writes).

New rules brought in by Fina, swimming's international governing body, in February mean that Zhivanevskaya's results from the Olympic Games and the European championships, at Vienna last year, will be cancelled. She was third in the 100 metres backstroke at Vienna.

announced on Sunday as having tested positive for Broomant, an agent that may be used as a masking agent for other substances, were Andrei Korneyev, of Russia — whose bronze medal in the 200 metres breaststroke will now go to Nick Gillingham, of Great Britain — Zafar Gulyov, a Russian Greco-Roman wrestler who won the bronze medal in the 48kg class, and Rita Raznaite, a sprint cyclist from Lithuania. The Lithuanian cycling team doctor and coach have also been excluded from the Games and all qualifying Olympic events until Sydney 2000.

Atherton rewarded at the death

By PAT GIBSON

OLD TRAFFORD (Lancashire won toss; Lancashire beat Derbyshire by two runs)

MICHAEL ATHERTON was not taking any chances this time. Twenty-four hours after he had failed to save the England citadel at Lord's from the rampaging Pakistanis, by leaving the task to lesser men, he made sure that Lancashire's Old Trafford stronghold did not fall to the invaders from across the Pennine border by doing the job himself.

Without Atherton's utterly dedicated 115, chiselled out in 58 overs, Lancashire would have surrendered their proud, unbeaten home record in knockout competitions, stretching back over nine seasons and 15 matches, as well as their hope of adding the NatWest Trophy to the Benson and Hedges Cup.

They knew that Derbyshire were dangerous opponents in this quarter-final. They were the last side to beat them in a knockout match in Lancashire, albeit at Liverpool in 1988; they had beaten them again in the 1993 Benson and

Hedges Cup final; and they had just overcome them in both the championship and the Sunday league at Old Trafford. And they almost did it again. In the end, Dean Jones, the Derbyshire captain, needed to hit a four off the final ball from Chapple to level the scores and give his side victory by virtue of the fact that they scored four more runs off the first 30 overs.

He could manage only two and, although Jones had the consolation of completing a magnificent century, Lancashire had won a knockout game off the last ball for the third time this season.

Atherton invariably sets out his stall to bat through the innings and that is just what Lancashire needed on a slow, turning pitch where strokeplay was never easy. There were only four boundaries in his first 50, which came from 122 balls, and none at all in his second, although that took him only 55 balls. It was testimony to the mental toughness and physical endurance of a man who had just gone through all kinds of agonies in a five-day Test that, when he was finally caught at long-on, he had batted for 3½ hours, faced 175 balls and struck only six fours.

Gallian had shared in a partnership of 57 in 20 overs but Crawley and Fairbrother failed against some tight Derbyshire bowling and the acceleration came from Lloyd, who made 61 out of 101 for the fourth wicket off only 59 balls with a six and seven fours.

Barnett took five of the last six wickets to fall for 32, as Lancashire thrashed 80 off the last ten overs, and then seemed to have given Derbyshire the platform for victory when he and Cork put on 92 for the first wicket.

Both were out in the first over after tea, however, and once they had gone it was a question of whether Jones, still one of the best one-day batsmen in the world, could conjure victory on a pitch reviving memories of Jim Laker's 19 wickets here 40 years ago almost to the day. He could not have got much closer and, if Fairbrother had not pulled off a miraculous stop on the long-on boundary to turn what looked like being a six into a single in the penultimate over, he would have won a famous victory.

SCOREBOARD FROM OLD TRAFFORD

LANCASHIRE		DERBYSHIRE	
J.R. Gallian c Cork b Dean	27	K.J. Barnett c O'Connor b Dean	38
M.A. Atherton c O'Connor b Dean	115	G.G. Cork not out	58
J.P. Crawley c Newman b Wells	9	D.M. Jones not out	100
N.H. Fairbrother c Dean b Wandelaar	11	C.J. Adams b Yates	13
G.D. Lloyd c Cork b Barnett	61	G.D. Gallian c Lloyd b Barnett	15
M. Wandelaar c Jones b Barnett	17	P.A.J. DeFreitas c Lloyd b Barnett	17
R.W. Hogg c Khan b Barnett	18	M. Newman b Wandelaar	15
I.D. Austin c Jones b Barnett	0	G.A. Khan c Wandelaar b Chapple	15
G. Chapple b b Barnett	0	C.M. Wells b Chapple	3
G. Yates not out	8	K.J. Barnett not out	3
P.J. Martin not out	0	K.J. Barnett not out	0
Extras (b 4, w 3, nb 14)	21	Extras (b 7, w 3)	10
Total (8 wickets, 60 overs)	289	Total (8 wickets, 60 overs)	287
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-57, 2-88, 3-109, 4-116, 5-234, 6-237, 7-273, 8-273, 9-273		FALL OF WICKETS: 1-25, 2-103, 3-147, 4-178, 5-212, 6-234, 7-272, 8-281, 9-286	
BOWLING: Cork 12-0-61-0; DeFreitas 12-2-37-0; Wells 12-0-40-1; Dean 11-0-75-2; Wandelaar 7-0-39-1; Barnett 6-1-30-3		BOWLING: Austin 12-2-56-0; Martin 12-2-50-2; Yates 12-1-42-0; Chapple 12-0-63-2; Wandelaar 12-0-49-1	
Man-of-the-match: M.A. Atherton		Man-of-the-match: D.M. Jones	

NatWest reports and scoreboards, page 38

Shearer misses out on greater riches

By JASON NISSE

THE desire to stay in England, and an ill-considered decision to sign a new four-year contract for Blackburn Rovers last year, look like costing Alan Shearer at least £10 million.

Despite becoming the world's most expensive footballer with his £15 million move to Newcastle United, and signing a deal worth £7.5 million over five years, Shearer has missed an opportunity to revolutionise the way footballers are paid in England.

"The system in England is going to go the same way as the US, with players being free agents and able to negotiate their own deals," Glen Cooper, a merchant banker who has advised Manchester United and one of the bidders for Leeds United, said.

Of the transfer fee paid by Newcastle,

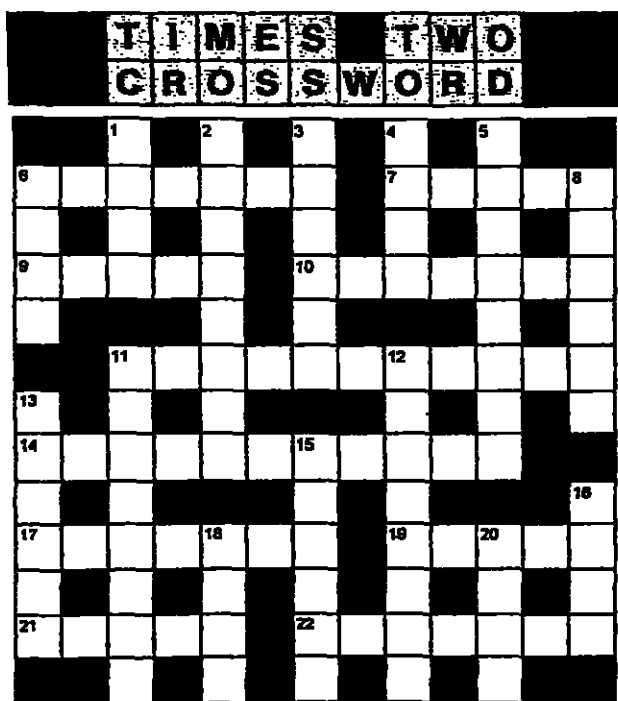
more than £1 million will go to Shearer, who has also agreed a five-year contract at a minimum of £1.5 million a year. However attractive this appears, however, others, like Ryan Giggs or Steve McManaman, are likely to do even better should they decide to move clubs.

Following the European Court's ruling in the Bosman case, any footballer is free to move at the end of his contract on a free transfer. So far this has been interpreted as only covering transfers between countries, which is why Gianluca Vialli joined Chelsea from Juventus for nothing.

Legal experts say the Bosman ruling should mean the end of transfer fees for any out of contract players in England. "Some European countries have already scrapped transfer fees between clubs," Maurice Watkins, legal advisor to Manchester United, said.

All it needs is for a player to take the matter to court for the Football Association's system to be destroyed. "When a player does have the incentive to challenge the tribunal system, I have little doubt the courts will throw it out," Gary Assin, of Travers Smith Brathwaite, the City lawyers, said.

Shearer would have had just such an incentive — had he not signed a new contract last year, albeit with a clause saying his agent, Tony Stephens, could negotiate personal terms with any club that offered in excess of £10 million for him. His original deal, when Blackburn bought him for £3.3 million from Southampton, was for four years, which would have run out by now. Had he stuck to it, Shearer could have moved to Juventus or Barcelona on a free transfer and pocket a signing-on fee, which could have exceeded £10 million.



No 848

ACROSS
6 (Specious) allure (7)
7 Not silently; sounds like let (5)
9 Country south of Egypt (5)
10 — Jones (Raiders of the Lost Ark) (7)
11 Empty boasting (11)
14 Brass tactics (5-6)
17 Least amount (7)
19 The Mongols' was Golden (5)
21 Comfortable (bullet) (5)
22 Hardest, most valuable, carbon form (7)

DOWN
1 (Musical) group; ring (4)
2 Four or six runs (9)
3 Having a go; income (6)
4 Domestic help (4)
5 Rule by king (8)
6 A rip (4)
8 Be interminable (4,2); more (6)
11 Plant scientist (9)
12 One from The Hague (8)
13 Aphoristic (6)
15 A cure (6)
16 Curve, flex (4)
18 In county, capital Castellar (4)
20 Tumult (4)

SOLUTION TO No. 847

ACROSS: 5 Transparency 8 Beagle 9 Square 10 Lick 12 Deficit 14 Scruple 15 Drag 17 Carmel 18 Relent 20 General staff

DOWN: 1 Sleepchase 2 Fang 3 Banhee 4 Peculiar 6 Shed 7 Carving knife 11 Crumple 13 Flyleaf 16 Iris 19 Lost

SOLUTION TO TIMES TWO CROSSWORD 845

In association with BRITISH MIDLAND
ACROSS: 1 Crow 3 Epiphany 8 Allowed 10 Refer 11 Pandora's box 13 Orange 15 Studio 17 Clear the air 20 Upend 21 Garland 22 Anecdote 23 Weir
DOWN: 1 Champion 2 All-in 4 Pedlar 5 Park teacher 6 Altered 7 Yard 9 Wrong-headed 12 Joyrider 14 Ancient 16 Frigate 18 Adage 19 Pupa

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